Contacts: Dana Conti or Lori Stein
Schwartz Communications
(781) 684-0770
OmniGuide@schwartz-pr.com

# OMNIGUIDE INTRODUCES THE BEAMPATH NEURO™: A $CO_2$ LASER FIBER FOR BRAIN AND SPINE SURGERY

*First, Flexible $CO_2$ Laser Scalpel Provides Surgeons with No-Touch Surgical Tool For Precision Brain and Spine Surgery*

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass., September 22, 2008—**OmniGuide, Inc., announced today the introduction of the new BeamPath NEURO™, the first flexible $CO_2$ laser scalpel for neurosurgery. The BeamPath NEURO fiber provides surgeons with a precise, no-touch microsurgical tool for various central nervous system (CNS) procedures, including intracranial tumor surgeries, spine tumor surgeries and transnasal pituitary surgeries. BeamPath NEURO is designed for operating near critical structures, for accessing difficult to reach regions of the brain and for minimizing thermal injury to adjacent healthy tissue of the brain or spine.

The clinical benefits of $CO_2$ lasers for neurosurgery were recognized 30 years ago. However, prior to BeamPath, $CO_2$ lasers could only be delivered through a large articulated arm system and were limited to "line-of-sight" procedures. As a result, for the past twenty years, $CO_2$ lasers have rarely been used in neurosurgery. With the introduction of the BeamPath NEURO flexible $CO_2$ laser, neurosurgeons now have the ability to perform precise dissection, cutting, debulking, and microvascular coagulation using a hand-held, no-touch instrument.

"Neurosurgeons have long realized the benefits of $CO_2$ lasers for microsurgery, but the traditional means of delivering the laser were too rigid and unwieldy for microsurgery, limiting lasers' use in our specialty," said Robert F. Spetzler, M.D., F.A.C.S., Director, Barrow Neurological Institute, J.N. Harbor Chairman of Neurological Surgery in Phoenix, Ariz. "A flexible $CO_2$ laser is ideal for removing small tumors that are in close proximity to critical structures, including very sensitive areas of the brain and spinal cord, as well as for tumors in deep holes, when the most precise, no-touch surgical tool is essential."

BeamPath NEURO fibers empower surgeons to perform delicate cutting and coagulation with minimal thermal tissue damage and ultimate maneuverability. With one surgical tool, BeamPath NEURO enables:

- **Precise dissection**—enables pin-point accuracy while separating adherent tumor from critical structures.
- **Cutting**—allows for efficient and precise removal of tumor and tumor remnants.
- **Debulking**—shrinks tumor mass in a layer-by-layer fashion.

- **Microvascular Coagulation**—enables the surgeon to operate on appropriate tumors within a clean field.

- **A surgeon-controlled, no-touch tool**—reduces tissue retraction and manipulation leading to limited post-op edema and possibly quicker recovery.

"OmniGuide is experiencing strong demand for our precision surgical systems across a multiplicity of clinical verticals including head and neck cancer, otology and airway surgery," said Yoel Fink, OmniGuide co-founder and CEO. "The BeamPath NEURO represents an important step towards capturing value by developing scalpels that target specific clinical indications and disease states. We are excited to expand into the neurosurgery market where we are satisfying an unmet need for a precise, no-touch, minimally invasive optical scalpel."

The BeamPath NEURO-L Fiber and four BeamPath NEURO hand pieces are now available through OmniGuide by calling 1-888-OMNI-GUIDE.

**About OmniGuide, Inc.**
OmniGuide, Inc., is the worldwide leader in precision optical scalpels for minimally invasive surgery. OmniGuide $CO_2$ laser fiber products are clinically targeted disposable optical scalpels optimized for specific surgical procedures. The Company has recently introduced a line of fiber-enabled, portable, low-cost $CO_2$ laser systems for use in operating rooms and surgical suites. The Company designs and manufactures its fiber products in Cambridge, Mass. based on multi-material photonic bandgap fiber technology exclusively licensed from MIT. The company distributes its products in the U.S. and Europe. OmniGuide is committed to developing products that improve and expand surgical treatment options, enhance clinical outcomes, and reduce treatment complexity and cost.

Since being cleared by the FDA in 2006, BeamPath fibers have been used in close to 5,000 surgical procedures for otology, laryngology, airway and head and neck procedures. OmniGuide has several leading-edge flexible laser fibers for use in both hospital and office settings; leading brands include the BeamPath™ ENT for laryngology, airway and head and neck procedures and BeamPath OTO for Otology procedures. Additional information about OmniGuide may be found at www.omni-guide.com.

###