



SeptRx CEO combines technical expertise and business savvy

Scott Russell holds 22 patents on medical devices and advanced alloys, has published in numerous journals, and is the past Chairman of the International Conference on Shape Memory and Superelastic Technologies (SMST).



Scott Russell

Chief Executive Officer

“We have developed a minimally invasive device designed to block and seal a hole in the heart,” says Scott Russell.

SEPTRX IS DEVELOPING THE SEPTRX® IPO — INTRAPOCKET PFO OCCLUDER — THE WORLD’S FIRST AND ONLY DEVICE TO CLOSE A “HOLE” IN THE HEART THAT HAS A 100% CLOSURE RATE AND 100% SAFETY OUT TO THREE YEARS.

While it is commonly referred to as a “hole” in the heart, a “PFO” is actually a *tunnel*-like opening between the upper chambers of the heart. We are all born with this “hole” as it is a critical part of the fetal circulation, but it usually seals itself within a few months after birth. In about 25% of the population it does not fully close and therefore can allow emboli in the blood to pass between the right and left atria (thereby bypassing the natural “filter” of the lungs) and eventually making their way into the arteries of the brain, causing a stroke.

Scott Russell was recruited to SeptRx in 2008 to lead the cardiovascular medical device startup to develop and commercialize a device for percutaneous repair of patent foramen ovale. Mr. Russell has been directly responsible for all aspects of the SeptRx operation, including device design, clinical trial design, marketing, regulatory strategy, finance, manufacturing process development, packaging, testing, business planning, intellectual property development and protection, and negotiations/communications with stockholders, funders and strategic partners. He has successfully led the company through final commercial device development and its pivotal European clinical trial, including receipt of ethics committee approval from multiple European clinical sites. Mr. Russell is especially proud that SeptRx has met its development goals despite severely compressed budget, resource and time constraints.

Scott Russell, President and CEO, is an inventor of the SeptRx® Intrapocket PFO Occluder. He began his career at Pratt & Whitney in 1987 with a research focus on high-temperature shape memory alloys. He joined Special Metals in 1993 as a Nitinol Product Engineer. In 1995, he became Director of Sales and Marketing of Shape Memory Applications (SMA). In 2000, he joined Nitinol Devices & Components (NDC), a Johnson & Johnson company, as Director of Advanced Devices. In 2006, Mr. Russell launched Benchmark Nitinol Device Technologies, a medical device technology and business development consultancy focusing on the unique issues of Nitinol medical devices; in 2007, he cofounded Confirmed LLC, a startup devoted to testing and characterizing medical devices. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Materials Science and Engineering from Cornell University and a Master of Science degree in Metallurgy from the University of Connecticut.