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## **Vidacare® Unveils Next-Generation Emergency Tool for Military Medics**

### *Field Technology Made Possible with Grant from the US Air Force*

**San Antonio, Texas – May 19, 2008** - Vidacare, the leading developer, manufacturer and marketer of intraosseous technology, has introduced a next-generation power-driver to their line of vascular access products for military medical use. The development of the G3 Power Driver was made possible by a \$750,000 Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) Phase II Award given by the US Air Force. Vidacare used the grant to perform upgrades to the current device ranging from dimensions to battery life that will further allow military medics to provide life-saving care in the field.

The highly successful, current EZ-IO system is a leading IO device used by the US armed forces in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other locations. With its bevel-tipped needle sets, the system allows for quick and controlled access to the interior of the bone, for infusion of vital fluids and medications in seconds.

The newly developed G3 Power Driver is lightweight, rugged, compact and air-worthy, enabling the practical use of reliable IO access in military operations. It is capable of at least 500 insertions, has a shelf life of ten years, and is tactical black in color. All of the G3 needle sets are 15-gauge with standard Luer-lock connectors.

“The combat environment demands compact, extended-wear devices. The G3 Power Driver was specifically designed with the military medic in mind. The product system allows reliable vascular access in less than perfect conditions,” said Phil Faris, CEO of

Vidacare. “The current device has proven to meet the needs of the military in the tactical, transport or hospital environments and the redesigned G3 will be of further value.”

Vidacare will continue to offer the lightweight Manual and Sternal EZ-IO Needle Sets, for immediate vascular access in austere field conditions. Provided in packs weighing less than 1.6 ounces each, the needle sets can be inserted in less than 30 seconds.

To ensure medics maintain their critical vascular access skills, Vidacare has developed a training program geared toward the military. The hands-on program includes training kits identical to those used in the field, realistic mannequins, instructional CDs and a comprehensive Web site for access to further information and FAQs.

#### **About Vidacare Corporation**

Vidacare® is the leading developer, manufacturer and marketer of advanced intraosseous (IO) access technology for multiple diagnostic, monitoring and therapeutic applications. The company’s initial product line, the EZ-IO® product system by Vidacare, serves the emergent care industry as the world’s only lithium-battery powered drill and patented needle set for gaining immediate vascular access when conventional IV access is difficult or impossible. Vidacare’s suite of hematology/oncology products includes a power driver and specially-designed needle sets for bone marrow aspiration and biopsy. The OnControl™ Aspiration System by Vidacare represents the first in this series of products and will be commercially available in June 2007. Headquartered in San Antonio, Texas, Vidacare was founded in 2001. For more information, visit [www.vidacare.com](http://www.vidacare.com).

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