



## **Aesculap, Inc. Introduces the Miethke miniNAV™; an Innovative Valve for the Treatment of Hydrocephalus**

**Center Valley, PA (July 23, 2012)** – Aesculap, Inc. is pleased to announce the availability of the Miethke miniNAV™ Shunt Valve. The miniNAV (mini Non Assisted Valve) is an extremely small, non-gravity assisted shunt valve, which is an ideal addition to the well established portfolio of hydrocephalus products from Miethke.

The ultra-small size and streamlined shape of the miniNAV makes it an ideal choice for the treatment of pediatric hydrocephalus, especially for premature and newborn infants, where smaller valves are preferred for easier implantation and improved aesthetics. The miniNAV is also useful in treating recumbent and inactive patients, where a gravitational valve may not be needed.

The innovative miniNAV valve is the smallest differential pressure valve with reliable drainage control available today. This is achieved by using titanium for the valve housing coupled with proven Miethke ball-in-cove valve components. Titanium retains its strength even when machined very thin. This allows the valve to be made extremely small, with very thin walls, without sacrificing strength or restricting flow.

“Surgeons often use simple differential pressure valves for treating hydrocephalus,” stated Chuck DiNardo, President of Aesculap, Inc. “Unfortunately, many of the valves available to surgeons are quite large and difficult to implant on the smallest patients and are often quite noticeable after implantation. We are excited to offer the miniNAV valve which offers amazingly small size, without compromising performance.”

To manage the variety of complex needs of each patient, miniNAV is available in four pressure levels: 0, 5, 10, and 15 cmH<sub>2</sub>O. It is also fully usable in combination with Aesculap’s gravitational valves. The shunt features a unique zero cm H<sub>2</sub>O opening pressure choice for use in creating low pressure or anti-reflux systems.

For additional information about miniNAV visit [www.aesculapusa.com](http://www.aesculapusa.com).

### **About Aesculap, Inc.**

Aesculap, Inc., a B. Braun company, founded in 1867 in Tuttlingen, Germany, is the world’s largest and one of the most respected manufacturers of surgical instruments and sterilization container systems. Aesculap is a leading privately-owned manufacturing company, passionately committed to providing high-quality, innovative products and services to all surgical disciplines, with particular focus in the fields of General, Neuro, Spine and Orthopaedics. For more information, contact Aesculap Customer Service at 1-800-282-9000 or visit [www.aesculapusa.com](http://www.aesculapusa.com).

### **About B. Braun**

B. Braun is a leading manufacturer of infusion therapy and pain management products with an environmentally-friendly focus. Guided by the company’s “Sharing Expertise®” philosophy, B. Braun addresses the critical issues of infection prevention, medication safety and environmental responsibility by promoting best practices that help clinicians reduce medication errors, prevent healthcare-acquired infections (HAIs) and achieve sustainability objectives.



Consistently recognized by Frost & Sullivan and KLAS for its medical technology and support services, B. Braun employees share their knowledge with colleagues and customers to improve working processes in hospitals and medical practices and to enhance the safety of patients and healthcare professionals. For more information, call 800-227-2862, e-mail us at [inquiry.us@bbraun.com](mailto:inquiry.us@bbraun.com) or visit B. Braun at [www.bbrawnusa.com](http://www.bbrawnusa.com).

### **About Miethke**

Christoph Miethke GmbH & Co. KG was founded in 1992 and is now situated in Potsdam, Germany. The company develops, produces and distributes neurosurgical products for the treatment of hydrocephalus. Because of the unique gravitational drainage systems and novel valve mechanisms that are integral to their products, Christoph Miethke GmbH & Co.KG is well regarded as an innovative organization by neurosurgical experts worldwide. For more information, visit [www.miethke.com](http://www.miethke.com).

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