

The Composer is used as a controllable access catheter for minimally invasive procedures.



Photo: Freudenberg Medical

A PLATFORM WHICH OPENS A WINDOW INTO THE BODY

Access catheter | The Composer platform is a real all-rounder: it opens up new opportunities for minimally invasive surgery, keeps patients safe and allows medical device manufacturers to reduce their development times.

The roughly 20 cm component might not seem too impressive at first glance. However, it has a lot of spectacular abilities at its disposal. Freudenberg Medical's team of developers spent two years designing the high-tech Composer platform for medical device manufacturers at its site in Jeffersonville, USA.

Minimally invasive surgery has proven to be particularly successful in the field of cardiology. Diseases which once would have required open-heart surgery and the use of heart-lung machines can now be treated by specialists on an outpatient basis using local anaesthetic. They do this by inserting a small catheter into an artery in the patient's groin and then guiding it to the part of the patient's body where treatment is required.

The Composer is a controllable access catheter which opens a window into the

body. It can be used to get a wide range of diagnostic or therapeutic catheters to their required location. For patients, this kind of procedure means less risk, a quicker recovery and fewer complaints. It enables physicians to provide patients with quicker treatment at a lower cost.

The Composer platform lowers development costs

But there is no progress without side effects: "The pace of innovation in the medical device market is truly breathtaking," explains Dr Max Kley, CEO of Freudenberg Medical. He also believes there is something of a gap in the market when it comes to commercialisation. The rate at which new products are coming on to the market is struggling to keep up with all of the new ideas being explored in this field.

That's what inspired Freudenberg's engineers to come up with the Composer. Officially, it is designated a "steerable access for diagnostic and therapeutic interventions"; but it's more than just that. It also provides a platform which specialised providers can use to create their own innovations and market them under their own brand names. "Development is accelerated for all stakeholders, and development costs are reduced," is how Kley

summarises the benefits. Various expansions can be added to the Composer, making it suitable for a variety of applications.

Freudenberg Medical's Composer is a patented technology platform which opens up a wide range of possibilities thanks to its sophisticated design. The innovation has already led to 12 new product development projects with Freudenberg business partners. The interior of the Composer is also less complex. This was particularly important for one of Freudenberg's strategic sales partners, which has worked for the company for at least seven years. The company is a leading provider of disposable medical devices. "The Composer is easy to dismantle, and its core components are easy to access. This allows a partner to insert an alternative catheter shaft so that they can provide the product without any loss of functionality. That reduces waste in a field where devices are frequently designed to be used once and then thrown away after surgery," explains Kaeflein. ■

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YOUR KEYWORDS

- Composer platform
- Minimally invasive surgery
- Expansion connectors
- Development network