



## Leg length discrepancies successfully corrected: FITBONE® makes a big impact at the ILLRS Congress Miami

**FITBONE® – the motorized, fully implantable, intramedullary lengthening nail from WITTENSTEIN intens – was one of the highlights at this year's International Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society (ILLRS) Congress in Miami, Florida / USA. Both the stimulating discussions at the parallel industry exhibition and the large number of surgeons who signed up for the FITBONE® Symposium show what a big impact it made.**

The ILLRS Congress, staged from November 4 to 7, 2015, was attended by around 1500 visitors. They were fascinated by the patient friendly FITBONE® technology for compensating leg length discrepancies – and no less excited by the qualification concept of the "Center of Excellence" (COE), which was set up around the world by WITTENSTEIN intens and Prof. Rainer Baumgart (Head of ZEM Germany) in order to enable the surgeons to use the outstanding possibilities of the FITBONE® concept and to offer them a platform for exchanging ideas and experiences.

### **FITBONE® provides feedback on treatment progress**

FITBONE® is a fully implantable, intramedullary lengthening nail for compensating limb length discrepancies; if necessary, the surgeon can simultaneously correct limb length discrepancies of the femur and / or tibia as well as axial and torsional deformities in one surgery. Owing to the mature surgical technique, excellent cosmetic results are achieved with only a minimally invasive procedure. In contrast to external fixators, FITBONE® unites high wearing and treatment comfort for the patient with significantly reduced pain throughout the distraction phase. The drive unit in the intramedullary lengthening nail is controlled by each patient in the comfort of their own home using a handy external control set. FITBONE® allows the complete distraction process to be monitored – a feature that is particularly appreciated by surgeons and patients alike since no other system in the world provides similar triple feedback. The Control Set not only flashes during the distraction treatment ("activation") and shows the number of impulses sent to the implanted receiver. The sound of the drive unit is also audible

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High-tech products made by WITTENSTEIN fly into space and win Formula One races. Intelligent drive systems – from the world's smallest high-performance servo drive to the latest state of the art in medical technology – are developed, produced and marketed by a team of around 1900 employees. With a blend of dedication and enthusiasm, we set benchmarks – every day – worldwide.



The FITBONE® intramedullary lengthening nail from WITTENSTEIN intens is only implanted by specially trained surgeons.

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#### **WITTENSTEIN AG**

Walter-Wittenstein-Straße 1  
97999 Igersheim · Germany

**Contact: Sabine Maier**  
Press Officer  
Tel. +49 7931 493-10399  
Fax +49 7931 493-10301  
E-Mail: [sabine.maier@wittenstein.de](mailto:sabine.maier@wittenstein.de)  
[www.wittenstein.de](http://www.wittenstein.de)

through a stethoscope, so that distraction sequences are fully transparent for both the surgeon and the patient.

### **Keen interest in the FITBONE® Symposium**

Several international FITBONE® users were invited to the FITBONE® Symposium held during the ILLRS Congress to report on their positive experience with the planning and execution of the surgical procedure according to Prof. Baumgart and elaborate on the high level of treatment and patient safety FITBONE® affords. They additionally demonstrated custom-made variants of the intramedullary nail for treating indications such as short residual limbs, bone defects or segment transport following tumour resections and explained how FITBONE® can be integrated in non-invasively lengthened MUTARS® growing prostheses.

FITBONE® was also the object of many interesting discussions outside the symposium. FITBONE® commands an important technology and treatment lead when it comes to correcting leg length discrepancies: miniaturized for implantation in a minimally invasive procedure, easy to handle, largely painless treatment, no risk of infection and perfect cosmetic result.

### **Photo:**



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Press Officer  
Tel. +49 7931 493-10399  
Fax +49 7931 493-10301  
E-Mail: [sabine.maier@wittenstein.de](mailto:sabine.maier@wittenstein.de)  
[www.wittenstein.de](http://www.wittenstein.de)

Texts and photographs in printable quality can be downloaded from [presse.wittenstein.de](http://presse.wittenstein.de).

#### **WITTENSTEIN intens GmbH**

Intelligent implants based on miniaturized drive technology are the main focus of WITTENSTEIN intens' activities. To take just one example: FITBONE® is the world's only motorized, controllable and fully implantable intramedullary distraction nail for lengthening human limbs. It is used to correct leg length discrepancies and carry out axial and torsional corrections. This mechatronic system facilitates an economical treatment concept characterized by a high level of patient comfort as well as short hospitalization and therapy periods. WITTENSTEIN intens GmbH is one of eight Business Units of WITTENSTEIN AG.

#### **WITTENSTEIN – AG one with the future**

With around 1900 employees worldwide and sales of approximately €276 million in 2014/15, WITTENSTEIN AG enjoys an impeccable reputation for innovation, precision and excellence in the field of mechatronic drive technology – not just in Germany but internationally. The group comprises eight pacesetting Business Units with separate subsidiaries for servo gearheads, servo actuator systems, medical technology, miniature servo units, innovative gearing technology, rotary and linear actuator systems, nano technology and electronic and software components for drive technologies. Through its 60 or so subsidiaries and agents in approximately 40 countries, WITTENSTEIN ([www.wittenstein.de](http://www.wittenstein.de)) is additionally represented in all the world's major technology and sales markets.

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Press Officer  
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[www.wittenstein.de](http://www.wittenstein.de)