

## Press Release

### Friction Welding Technology Enables Flexible Medical Instruments

The member of the European Funded FP7 project CleanTools are delighted to announce the development of a novel rotary friction welding methodology to join Nitinol to Stainless Steel using a biocompatible interlayer.

The CleanTools project has developed rotary friction welding parameters that provide tripartite joint exhibiting properties suitable for use in medical instruments such as intramedullary reamers. Benefits include the reduction in the need for mechanical joint in this type of medical device. The use of the shape-memory alloy Nitinol for the shaft provides sufficient elasticity to allow the rotating tool to be used in curved bone. Advantages of these approaches are the reduced cleaning and disinfection effort required compared to current instruments on the market using double wound shafts and mechanical joints found in current instruments.

The CleanTools consortium is excited by the prospect of bringing this novel welding methodology to market and is actively pursuing partners for the commercialisation of the technology. Further details can be found at [www.cleantools.de](http://www.cleantools.de)