



The difference is measurable™

**INSTRON® ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP
WITH MACHINE SOLUTIONS INC.**

*Covering Radial Expansion Test Fixtures and Systems
for Testing Interventional Cardiology and Neurology Devices*

Instron, a leading provider of testing equipment designed to evaluate mechanical properties of materials and components, announces a partnership with Machine Solutions Incorporated (MSI) of Flagstaff, AZ, an innovative manufacturer of proprietary mechanical solutions to a variety of complex process and medical device design challenges. MSI has been instrumental in automating or semi-automating several manual processes by providing equipment for stent crimping, balloon catheter pleating & folding, marker band swaging, and mechanical testing of stents and stent delivery systems.



The partnership allows Instron to introduce its new 5544/RX testing system, which is used to measure and record radial stiffness and hoop strength of interventional medical devices like balloon expandable stents, self-expanding stents, embolic filters and collagen plugs. These devices are used in both cardiology and neurology procedures. Additionally, the system includes a special version of Instron's Bluehill® 2 Materials Testing Software package. This minimizes the amount of verification and validation work a manufacturer will have to perform on their testing systems.

Although the Instron 5544/RX will accommodate a wide variety of specimen sizes, the enhanced low force capabilities will provide detailed information for the ever-decreasing stent sizes and configurations. Additionally, the fixture can be removed and the system can be utilized for standard tensile and compression testing for even wider ranges of products including catheter tubing, nitinol metal, and surgical devices and materials. This versatility provides efficiencies in testing and higher level of accuracies for the biomedical testing industry.

For more information on Instron's products and services, visit www.instron.com. Click on 'Contact Us' to locate a sales, service and technical support office near you.

About Machine Solutions Inc.

Machine Solutions Inc. (MSI) is a leading manufacturer and pioneer in providing the medical device community with the premier solution for catheter & stent processing and testing applications. MSI has been instrumental in automating or semi-automating several manual processes within catheter & stent manufacturing organizations.

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