

SI entered into a two and a half year KTP (Knowledge Transfer Partnership) with the University of Leeds with the objective of optimising performance of our laparoscopic scissors. The KTP is proving successful with one of the outcomes so far being the introduction of the Electro Press, which will be used to produce our Logi™Cut scissor blades.

The Electro Press will increase capacity and impact positively on process control and repeatability of the Logi™Cut scissor blades, ensuring that the perfect shape is formed every time. This represents the on-going commitment of SI to investment in machinery in addition to continual product improvement.

KTP is a UK-wide programme which helps businesses to improve their competitiveness, productivity and identify innovative solutions through use of knowledge, technology and skills that reside within UK Universities. The knowledge is embedded into the company through a project undertaken by a graduate recruited specifically to work on the project. This KTP involved a three-way relationship between SI, University of Leeds and Tae Zar Lwin, KTP Associate (Development Engineer).

Tae Zar is predominantly based at SI however he is able to work closely with the academic team at the University of Leeds, School of Mechanical Engineering for additional support and resources when required.

Tae Zar said, “The KTP at SI has presented the perfect opportunity for me to transition from academia into industry, combining theoretical knowledge with company-based training. I have found the on-going support from the University of Leeds invaluable to my project at SI and highly recommend KTP to graduates.”

Professor Anne Neville, Director of Institute of iETSI at the University of Leeds, School of Mechanical Engineering, said, “KTP is able to provide a mutually beneficial solution for all involved. We have worked with SI to transfer the required knowledge and skills from the University and from this, helped to establish a new capability in the company. The University has benefited from the interaction with SI, being able to apply our skills and technology to the specialist medical device industry. This is our first time collaborating with SI professionally and it has been a great success.”

