

Surgical Innovations Group plc (AIM:SUN), the designer and manufacturer of creative solutions for Minimally Invasive Surgery ('MIS'), has been announced as a finalist in this year's Manufacturer of the Year Awards 2013.

SI has been recognised in the Design & Innovation category of the Manufacturer awards for its pioneering 3mm range for use in "Ultra" Minimally Invasive Surgery. With the need for smaller instrumentation firmly in mind, SI has pioneered a range of surgical instruments that are only 3mm in diameter. The instruments, as well as offering minimal scarring, also significantly reduce post-operative pain and trauma for patients.

Making smaller incisions promotes quicker healing and can negate the need for port site closure suturing at the end of procedures; saving the patient the discomfort of stitch removal. Included within the range is an organ retractor (PretzelFlex™ 3mm), a range of instrumentation (Logi™Range 3mm) and a port access system (YelloPort+plus™ 3mm).

Mike White, Director of Design at Surgical Innovations said: "It is an honour to be recognised for this award after all of the hard work put into this product range by the team at SI. The challenge of designing and manufacturing the 3mm range was not to compromise on the high quality, function and performance characteristics that surgeons associate with our 5mm range of instruments. The team have done an excellent job."

In order to highlight this design challenge SI was presenting in front of a judging panel at the Manufacturer award's final at Birmingham University last week. The final decision will be made at the awards ceremony in Birmingham on the 4th December 2013.