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**WOMEN'S SURGERY RECORDED FOR THE FIRST TIME ON "4K" DIGITAL
CINEMA IS PRESENTED AT THE AAGL CONGRESS**

*Hollywood's latest ultra-high definition has potential to
revolutionize endoscopic surgery*

Las Vegas, NV (October 30, 2008) – Today, there was a glimpse into the future of women's healthcare with the presentation of gynecologic surgery that was recorded for the first time using "4K" technology, at the 37th Global Congress of Minimally Invasive Gynecology hosted by the AAGL. AAGL is the international professional society for specialists in minimally invasive gynecological techniques.

Ultra-high resolution digital cameras are transforming the art of cinema. Leading Hollywood directors such as Peter Jackson and Stephen Soderbergh have just started filming the next generation of cinema blockbusters using cameras with "4K" resolution, four times the resolution of High Definition (HD) with 4096 lines of resolution to give audiences unprecedented realism.

"Through the use of digital technology, Hollywood is moving from observation to immersion – you're not just watching something, you are *there*," said Steven F. Palter, MD of Gold Coast IVF (Syosset, NY) and director of docinthemachine.com, who presented the general session, *Film and Medicine: Entertainment and Technology from Yesterday to the Future*. "In this session we showed how tomorrow's film technology can apply to endoscopy and laparoscopic surgery, which is all performed using video techniques."

Dr. Palter joined forces with the Red Digital Cinema Camera Company that manufactures the 4K system and Sony, the leading ultra-high definition projector company, to film and project a surgery and microscopic images in 4K, which represents

its first uses in medicine and biology. The processing of 4K footage into a viewable digital cinema movie was done by leading Hollywood post-production house, FotoKem.

During the digital cinema presentation, the 1200 surgeons in attendance were able to visualize the surgery as if they were standing in the operating room. By combining unprecedented resolution and magnification, the surgical images were beyond what a surgeon would typically see while watching a video monitor as they preformed laparoscopic surgery.

“By increasing resolution to this level we allow the surgeon to be actually engaged in images that surpass the live surgical experience. The progress from regular surgical film technology is like comparing sitting in an HD home theater to watching a video on a cell phone,” said Dr. Palter.

The session also included a projection of the largest high definition (HD) 3d surgical images ever. Wearing glasses reminiscent of today’s 3d Hollywood blockbusters U23D and Journey to the Center of the Earth, participating surgeons felt as if they could “reach out and join the operation”. These images were enabled by converting Sony’s ultra-high definition and 3d theatrical systems to show medical footage in what the AAGL called the “Theater of Tomorrow.”

The 37th annual Global Congress of Minimally Invasive Gynecology was held by the AAGL October 28 through November 1.

About AAGL

The AAGL is the first and largest organization in the world dedicated to gynecologic endoscopic surgery. Founded in 1971, AAGL works to advance the safest and most efficacious diagnostic and therapeutic techniques that afford less invasive treatments for gynecologic conditions through the integration of clinical practice, research, innovation, and dialogue. For the past 36 years, the organization has educated the world's finest surgeons while improving the lives of women everywhere. This global commitment to women's health care is embodied in their continuing medical education of physicians and professionals to further promote the well-documented high standards of minimally invasive gynecologic surgery. For more information visit www.aagl.org.

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