



## Technology News

Technology Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
Washington, DC 20230  
[www.technology.gov](http://www.technology.gov)

**For Immediate Release**  
**February 23, 2007**

**Contact:** [Marjorie.Weisskohl@technology.gov](mailto:Marjorie.Weisskohl@technology.gov)  
202-482-0149

### **SynDaver™ Labs of Tampa, Florida to Receive Recognition of Excellence in Innovation Award from U.S. Commerce Department**

On Tuesday, February 27, Under Secretary of Commerce for Technology Robert Cresanti will present a "Recognition of Excellence in Innovation" award to SynDaver™ Labs of Tampa, Florida. The presentation to company President and Chief Technology Officer Dr. Christopher Sakezles will take place at the Pepin Heart and Vascular Institute, on the campus of the University of South Florida, in Tampa, Florida.

The award recognizes local and regional innovators from throughout the United States who have introduced a new and highly innovative product or service into the market, developed a novel manufacturing process, and received at least one patent from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office within the last 12 months.

SynDaver™ Labs is the only company in the world producing a commercially viable alternative to live animal testing for the medical device industry. A special example of a young, innovative, and growing company, SynDaver™ Labs develops sophisticated synthetic human tissues and body parts for the medical device, consumer product, and pharmaceutical industries. Their patented products employ replaceable muscles, tendons, veins, arteries, and organs, all made from materials that mimic the structural, chemical and mechanical properties of live tissue. Their products are currently used by Fortune 500 manufacturers in design development, by physicians and educators in surgical training, and by military manufacturers in ballistics testing.

SynDaver™ Labs has roughly twenty U.S. and international patents issued and pending on products that range from simple vascular models to completely synthetic human cadavers. The company has been retained primarily by medical device manufacturers since incorporating in early 2005, but they are now also supplying U.S. medical schools with product and expect to begin sales to the U.S. military by mid-year.

**WHO:** Robert Cresanti, Under Secretary of Commerce for Technology  
Dr. Christopher Sakezles, President, SynDaver™ Labs  
Chris Steinocher, COO and Senior Vice President, Tampa Bay Partnership

**WHAT:** Presentation of the "Recognition of Excellence in Innovation" certificate to SynDaver™ Labs. Media availability session to follow.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, February 27, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Peppin Heart Institute, University of South Florida



## **Recognition of Excellence in Innovation**

Presented By  
Robert C. Cresanti, Under Secretary for Technology  
U.S. Department of Commerce

Awarded To  
Dr. Christopher Sakezles, President and Chief Technology Officer  
SynDaver™ Labs, Tampa, Florida

February 27, 2007