

## Ethicon Endo-Surgery acquires SterilMed Inc.

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Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc. in Blue Ash said Wednesday it plans to expand in the medical device re-manufacturing market with the acquisition of SterilMed Inc. in Maple Grove, Minn.

Ethicon said it reached a definitive agreement to acquire SterilMed but financial terms weren't disclosed.

SterilMed provides products and services including medical device reprocessing, equipment repair, and pre-owned equipment sales that help healthcare providers lower their medical device and equipment costs, while reducing the amount of environmental waste they generate.

The acquisition broadens Ethicon's portfolio and enables expansion in a rapidly growing market segment, while also bringing added scale, scope and experience to an already successful SterilMed team, the companies said.

"The time is right for Ethicon Endo-Surgery and SterilMed to come together, given the rapid changes occurring in the U.S. healthcare system," said Karen Licitra, Ethicon Endo-Surgery chairman.

"Together, we can continue our focus on developing innovative surgical solutions, while providing healthcare facilities a wider range of flexible product options to save money, reduce medical waste, and maintain quality care for patients."

SterilMed will be managed as part of the Ethicon Endo-Surgery franchise, but will continue to operate as a standalone company and retain the name SterilMed.

Brian Sullivan, SterilMed chairman and CEO, said, "Becoming part of the Ethicon Endo-Surgery franchise, one of the largest and most respected medical device companies in the world, will have a positive impact on our business, while also expanding our product portfolio."

The deal is conditioned on the expiration or termination of waiting periods under anti-trust law and other customary closing conditions.

From the desk of The Cincinnati Enquirer