The Fischell Family's Secret of Success

Article preview reprinted from *Start-Up* - April 2008

START-UP interviews four of the most productive medical device inventors and company creators in the industry, and they're all members of the Fischell family.

Meet the Fischells. Four members of one family are collectively responsible for filing more than 200 patents in the medical device field, founding more than 14 device companies, including NeuroPace, Neuralieve, Angel Medical, Svelte Medical and GlucoTec, and inventing the world's most widely-used implantable medical device in the history of the industry, the stent design sold by Johnson & Johnson as the Bx Velocity. *Start-Up* interviews the four Fischells to learn the secrets of their success.

- Robert Fischell and his three sons are named as inventors on more than 200 patents, including the one for the J&J stent that is the biggest product the medical device world has ever seen.
- The inventions of the Fischells have resulted in the founding of more than 14 medical device companies, in the areas of cardiology, neurology, diabetes, and cancer, and many of them have enjoyed successful exits.
- In one family, the Fischells possess a unique blend of cross-disciplinary skills essential to the development of ever more complex medical devices.
- These inventors have had a number of outstanding successes in the past, but they believe they'll be most remembered for their two newest companies, Angel Medical Systems and GlucoTec.

Meet the Fischells. Four members of the immediate family are collectively responsible for filing more than 200 patents in the medical device field, founding more than 14 medical device companies, and inventing the world's most widely used implantable medical device in the history of the industry, the stent design sold by Johnson & Johnson's Cordis Corp. division in the form of the *Bx Velocity*, *Bx Sonic*, *Hepacoat*, and *Cypher* stents. The Fischells' stents have been implanted in more than six million people, and J&J has pulled in almost \$10 billion from that one product