

CTS IS NEW PROVIDER OF INDUSTRY- RECOGNIZED TMI GRINDER
TMI FOUNDER TOM MEREDITH HAS 'FULL TRUST IN CTS'

September 14, 2022 / DAYTON, Ohio - In a landmark agreement with TMI Industries, Community Tissue Services has obtained the exclusive rights to manufacture, market and distribute the TMI Grinder, considered the most efficient bone grinder in the tissue manufacturing industry.

TMI Industries has been owned and operated by founder Tom Meredith for more than 30 years. The patent purchase by CTS will ensure its legacy. Meredith's company was inspired by his sons Thomas Matthew Meredith and David J. Meredith who both perished in auto accidents three months apart as young men and were both organ and tissue donors. He named the company for his eldest son.

"After Tommy had passed David walked into my office and said, 'Dad, keep the grinder part of the business going and name it after Tommy,'" said Meredith.

"I had my heart into this thing since day one, create something usable to people," said Meredith. "There was nothing on the market that matched the TMI grinder. It's probably the premier unit in the world. When I sold the first grinder in England, it was afterwards said that it was the only grinder that did the job right."

"This grinder has been essential to our operations," said CBC/CTS Business Development Director Paul Lehner. "We wanted to see Tom's life work continue on and be available to aid in our mission of saving and enhancing lives for years to come."

CTS was one of the first tissue centers to adopt the TMI technology. Its primary use will continue to be dental and orthopedic applications. Lehner said CTS now owns the technology and plans to not only produce the existing machine, but to continuously improve its functionality and develop new applications.

Grinders before TMT created excessive heat, killing the bone's ability to be osteoconductive. He solved the problem by distancing the grinder from the power supply. Old grinders were made with iron paddles in iron cages that smashed the bones.

"The big thing was designing the cutter," said Tom. "We started with pointed teeth and moved to square teeth." Square heads chip and carve particles in different sizes without fracturing.

"We're still doing that to this day," said Tom. "Primary cutting wheel matched up with two secondary wheels that move in the same direction. Bone is so hard; it will bend shafts if you try to grind in opposite directions."

Suburban Tool Co. developed the primary tool for the TMI Grinder in the late 90's and will continue as exclusive fabricator.

"I'm pleased with it," Meredith said about the transition. "It's knowing the integrity of the people who work at CTS and how we have worked together on this human bone grinder, coming back asking if you can do this for us and working together. I have full trust in CTS."

Tom Meredith and CTS will continue to work together to make the TMI Grinder available to the market. For sales inquiries, please contact TMI@communitytissue.org.

Learn more at www.CBCCTS.org

Community Blood Center/Community Tissue Services® is a full-service regional blood center and a global tissue graft provider headquartered in Dayton, OH.

Community Blood Center provides blood products to partner hospitals and health centers within a 15-county service area in western Ohio and eastern Indiana.

Community Tissue Services is an industry leader in tissue graft development and biotechnology. It is the fifth largest provider of tissue grafts in the country and the largest not-for-profit provider of skin grafts for burn patients.

The Center for Tissue, Innovation and Research features Microbiology Lab testing; research and development into bio-active allografts and bio-materials; and 14 Class 100 Clean Rooms and Computer Numerical Control precision machinery for graft processing, marketing and distribution worldwide.

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