



PROPRIO® REACTIVE BALANCE SYSTEM IS AN IMPORTANT TOOL IN THE TREATMENT OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURED SOLDIERS AT THE NATIONAL INTREPID CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

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\$65M INTREPID CENTER IS THE MILITARY'S NEW NERVE CENTER FOR HIGH TECH INNOVATION TO DIAGNOSE AND TREAT THE INVISIBLE WOUNDS OF WAR

Bethesda, MD (June 24, 2010) – The 72,000-square-foot National Intrepid Center of Excellence opened today with the promise of being a world leader in the research, diagnosis and treatment planning for traumatic brain injuries, including the elusive mild TBI, and psychological disorders in war veterans. Since 2000, more than 150,000 service members have been diagnosed with TBI.

The \$65M center includes \$10M of the latest high tech equipment, including the PROPRIO® 5000 Reactive Balance System. The Intrepid Center was built by private donations from 125,000 Americans to the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund.





Deputy Defense Secretary William Lynn III said the center, located on the grounds of the National Naval Medical Center, will serve as a hub for service members and their families to get better diagnosis and treatment plans than are available at their local military installation.

Neurologist Thomas DeGraba, the Intrepid's deputy director and chief of medical operations, said the center will use "extraordinarily new and comprehensive approaches" to provide the next generation of care to service members and their families. He describes the center as the nerve center for high tech innovation. DeGraba said the Intrepid Center is not a treatment facility. Soldiers and their families will come to the facility when they need intensive evaluation by an interdisciplinary team of health professionals. The evaluations will last two weeks and the Intrepid team will consider combinations of clinical and alternative remedies.

Navy Rear Admiral Matthew L. Nathan described this combination as the "art and science in diagnoses and treatment." He said that the National Naval Medical Center, Walter Reed, and the Intrepid Center will work closely in the research and diagnosis of TBI and PTSD.

"We were pleased to learn in May 2009 that the military had requested the purchase of a PROPRIO® 5000 for the new Intrepid Center," said Ryan Tabaka, National Sales Manager for Perry Dynamics, Inc. "The Army, Navy, Marines, and VA healthcare systems have already purchased 20 PROPRIO® Systems initially for orthopedic rehab, but now equally for use in TBI clinics."

The PROPRIO® 5000 is an innovative balance machine that the military has been using since 2006 when purchased by Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Using a computer controlled platform, the clinician controls the speed, direction, and degree of tilt of the platform. While the platform can be set to move at a constant speed and degree of tilt, it may also be set for random movements.

"In the random setting, the platform will create surface perturbations that the patient cannot predict. Their ability to react appropriately tells us a lot about their balance strategies," said Joe Perry, President and creator of the PROPRIO® machine. "We've seen soldiers with traumatic brain injuries who have passed other balance and cognitive tests, but struggle within seconds of the PROPRIO's platform moving at even the easiest settings. Clearly the machine is providing different information about the soldier's condition than the other tests."

About the PROPRIO® Reactive Balance Systems

The PROPRIO® Reactive Balance Systems are the only true reactive balance machines to create measurable, repeatable perturbations in multiple planes at various speeds. First created in 2003 by Perry Dynamics, Inc., the patented PROPRIO® Systems provide postural control assessment and training for the widest range of neurological and orthopedic conditions benefitting everyone from acute stroke victims to bilateral vestibular patients to NFL athletes. Perry Dynamics, Inc. is a team of engineers, therapists, doctors, businesspeople and sports enthusiasts; in between rounds of golf, they manufacture and market the PROPRIO® Systems.

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