

HISTORY

Dr. Homer Stryker, a resident in orthopaedic surgery at the University of Michigan in the late 1930's, found that certain medical products were not meeting his needs or the needs of his patients. He put his inventive mind to work and created several pieces of medical equipment. After setting up practice in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Dr. Stryker's devices gained the attention of other medical professionals and, by 1941, the demand for these products had grown so large that Dr. Stryker founded a company to produce them. In 1946 Dr. Stryker incorporated his enterprise as the Orthopedic Frame Company. He led the company until his son, Lee, joined the business as General Manager in 1955. The company name was changed to Stryker Corporation in 1964 when Dr. Stryker retired from his medical practice. Lee became the company's President in 1969.

Stryker grew to a \$17 million in annual sales in 1976. Lee Stryker's untimely death created the need for a new leader. In early 1977 John W. Brown joined the company as President and Chief Executive Officer. The Company focused its attention on continuing to meet and surpass the needs of medical professionals and patients. That unwavering focus on results allowed the company to make its initial public offering of stock in 1979 and produced earnings growth per share of approximately 20% per year for more than 20 years. In 1980 sales stood at \$43 million and, by 1985, they surpassed \$100 million.

Stryker Corporation grew to \$280 million in 1990 and then nearly tripled to \$980 million in 1997. Also in 1997, after 18 years on NASDAQ, the company was listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SYK. In 1998 Stryker made a bold move when it acquired Howmedica, a leading orthopaedic implant company. The combination resulted in \$1.9 billion in pro-forma sales that year. In 2005 Stephen P. MacMillan became the fourth President and CEO in the history of the Company. In 2008 the company's sales topped \$6.7 billion.

Today Stryker is one of the world's leading medical technology companies with the most broadly based range of products in orthopaedics and a significant presence in other medical specialties. Growth has come from offering an unparalleled variety of high quality products and services and from the dedication of each of the Company's more than 17,000 employees. Stryker Corporation is well-positioned to continue serving the worldwide medical community for years to come.