

International Conference on

**WOUND CARE, TISSUE REPAIR AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE**

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## Vance Shaffer

*Tube-Evac™, USA*

### Tube-Evac device is the new standard of care for surgical drains

**Background:** Tube-Evac is an award-winning device that makes stripping surgical drainage tubes fast and easy, allowing for better patient outcomes. The Tube-Evac device was invented when my wife Linda had surgery in January 2008 and came home with drains. We were both terrible at clearing the drains and we had conflicting ways we were told for clearing the drains. As a result of this really awful experience I set about to make something that would be beneficial to those following after us so they would not go through the same awful experience we did ever again.

**Methods and Outcomes:** The first try was to weld some bolts on to a pair of water pump pliers, add some rollers and restrictor plates then bingo I had a working model. Quite crude but it worked. The next step was to reduce the size – a lot – and make it out of plastic. We met with Plastic Concepts in Jacksonville, Florida and they introduced us to a prototype builder. We worked with him until we had a device almost exactly the size it is today – a little over 1-inch width by 2 inches length with a set of rollers in it. The prototype had no hinges because it was layered 1/1000 inch at a time with very hard plastic, so hinges were not possible. It was simply two halves that were laid one on each side of the drain and then rolled down the drain. It was crude but worked perfectly.

The next step was to make a stainless-steel die which we could use to do the plastic injection molding. This was very expensive and took over two months to make the die. However, this one cavity die worked great and we could make Tube-Evac devices. A few years later we made a 4-cavity die. We now had the capacity to make 4,000,000 TubeEvac devices per year. Mayo Clinic tested 500 of the Tube-Evac devices in 2009 and loved them. They were our first customer and still are.

#### Speaker Biography

Vance Shaffer, an experienced President with a demonstrated history of working in the medical device industry. He is having strong business development professional skilled in Customer Service, Medical Devices, Entrepreneurship, Strategic Planning, and Business Development. He was the inventor of Tube-Evac. Quick, easy, and safe! Give your patients and their caregivers the peace of mind they deserve after surgery. Tube-Evac is an award-winning device that makes stripping surgical drainage tubes fast and easy, allowing for better patient outcomes. He studied Computer Science and Mathematics at University of Cincinnati and worked at various companies in data base and various commercial enterprises. In last 20 years, he was working with Cray Research and IBM Research where he taught PhD's, Post Docs, and Professors how to optimize computer programs to run on High Performance Computer systems with hundreds or thousands of computers. These codes were for molecular modeling, environmental modeling, stellar modeling, radioactive conversion to inert glass, optimization of materials management, keeping track of materials, and many other codes.

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