

## MD&M MINNEAPOLIS

### Featured Exhibitor

#### Custom Metal-Clad Wire Offers Alternative to Costlier Products

Editor - Daniel Grace

Known more for its work in other industries, **Anomet Products** (Shrewsbury, MA) has been quietly providing wire for medical applications for more than 15 years. Now, at MD&M Minneapolis, the company is ready to be heard.

"We're trying to get a little more aggressive," says Bob Gallant, the company's general manager. "When you come to these shows, word gets around."

In its first year at the show, Anomet hopes word gets around about its ability to design and manufacture custom metal-clad wire. Typically, choosing a metal wire requires tradeoffs. A wire might be biocompatible, yet lack strength, or a wire might be resistant to corrosion, yet lack good conductivity. But what if a specific design, say for a cardiac rhythm device, requires both corrosion resistance and conductivity?

Solid or plated wire made from a conductive and corrosion-resistant material such as gold or platinum is an option. Not surprisingly, however, these precious metals come at a high cost. This is where Anomet believes custom metal-clad wire can benefit OEMs as an alternative to standard or plated wire.

Metal-clad wire, made from a core of aluminum or steel, can provide the same benefits as standard or plated wire at a lower cost, and can even provide a reliability advantage, according to Gallant. It is made by bonding a core alloy to a surface metal or alloy that typically has good corrosion resistance. Since metals and alloys with good corrosion resistance—platinum, for example—tend to be more expensive than those with less resistance, a metal-clad wire that uses resistive material for its surface alone offers a potentially significant price advantage over a more-or-less equally functional standard or plated wire.

The company's manufacturing facility in Massachusetts was built specifically for the manufacture of a wide variety of metal wires. Medical applications include cardiac and implantable devices. Electronic systems for medical instruments have also incorporated the company's wire.

[www.anometproducts.com](http://www.anometproducts.com)

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**Metal-clad wire can serve as an alternative to standard or plated wire in medical applications.**