



KARL STORZ headquarters in Tuttlingen.

# Quality for the surgeon

## – Medical devices made by KARL STORZ

To provide surgeons in operating theatres with innovative and high-quality devices is KARL STORZ's core mission. The southern German family business KARL STORZ was founded in Tuttlingen in 1945 and since then has become one of the market leaders in the field of endoscopy and minimally invasive surgery. The company is still led by members of the founding family: Dr h. c. mult. Sybill Storz and Karl-Christian Storz, the founder's daughter and grandson, represent the second and third generation of company leaders, responsible for success, global growths and more than 7,500 employees.

TEXT: KARL STORZ, TRANSLATION: JESSICA HOLZHAUSEN | PHOTOS: KARL STORZ

Endoscopy or keyhole surgery, as it is commonly called, has in recent decades made a multitude of operations far easier on patients. Instead of using large incisions, the medical instruments are inserted into the body using natural body orifices or minimal incisions. With an endoscope, a thin tube with an optical system, a surgeon can look into the body and thus treat tissue and organs. The advantages are obvious: Smaller surgical wounds heal faster, the

risk of infection is minimised and patients can leave hospital far sooner.

Using this method today in all medical specialties, from head to toes, from neuroendoscopy to the arthroscopy of ankle joints, has become possible especially through technological milestones achieved by KARL STORZ. The company's founder Dr med. h. c. Karl Storz was an entrepreneur and inventor, who in the 1960s already

developed and established technologies that have brought more light into the body and via endoscope provide the surgeon with bright and colourfast pictures from inside the body. Today, endoscopic systems are employed that allow practitioners a better view or orientation even in complex situations, among them are video endoscopes that use computer chips instead of glass lenses or 3D camera systems. Modern software systems connect the various devices used in operating theatres, so they can be operated and controlled centrally. A so-called visualisation mode software integrated into the camera systems also helps to depict tissue more differentiated. KARL STORZ additionally develops and deploys medical navigation systems that help surgeons to protect sensitive structures in the body, as well as fluorescent imaging processes that enable medical experts to detect tumours at an earlier stage.



When it comes to innovation, the company always takes the surgeon's task into consideration: Which function should a medical system offer to make sure that the doctor can treat and heal the patient in the best way possible?

A special KARL STORZ endoscope for emergency medicine shows that even flying can be combined with patient security. In 2017, this endoscope won the German Innovation Award in the category 'Large Companies'. Flying is the most beautiful way of travelling, as one sees the world from above. It is fast and most destinations can be reached with direct flights – normally with no obstructions. This is something air rescuers are also taking advantage of. Air rescue teams are very fast and very professional. Traffic accidents and serious illnesses are treat-

ed directly on-site. Rescue helicopters – “flying clinics” – take the rescuers to the site very quickly. Here, seriously ill or wounded patients are provided with first aid care and are then carefully transported from the area, so they can get precise treatment in a hospital. If artificial respiration is needed in such a situation, the patient needs a ventilation tube that is inserted into the windpipe.

To carry out this procedure fast and safely, a video laryngoscope is required. This KARL STORZ high-precision product named C-MAC® Pocket Monitor is fitted with a mini-camera and a LED light that illuminates the mouth and windpipe. Additionally, it is so small that it can easily be stored and is ideal for mobile use – it therefore deserves the name Pocket Monitor. The attending physician will see

the real image on a high-resolution monitor. Additionally, the life-saving procedure can be recorded and saved for educational purposes to train young doctors.

This innovation developed by KARL STORZ helps doctors to save people's lives in emergency situations and has already become standard equipment for the German air rescue. Not only are emergency doctors with a great deal of know-how and expertise on board, but also a KARL STORZ quality product.

More information can be found at the following website or visit KARL STORZ at the world's largest trade fair for medical devices, the MEDICA in Düsseldorf (13 - 16 November 2017).

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



Dr. med. h. c. Karl Storz  
(company founder).



Dr. h. c. mult. Sybill Storz  
(daughter of company founder, second generation).



Karl-Christian Storz  
(grandson of the company founder, third generation).



The video laryngoscope C-MAC® Pocket Monitor – the winner of the German Innovation Award 2017 helps emergency doctors to save lives.



KARL STORZ exhibition stand at the MEDICA.



Networked operating room – KARL STORZ OR1™.