

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

January 13, 2022  
Date of Report (date of earliest event reported)

Asensus Surgical, Inc.  
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

0-19437  
(Commission  
File Number)

11-2962080  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

1 TW Alexander Drive, Suite 160  
Durham, NC 27703  
(Address of principal executive offices)  
919-765-8400

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)  
 Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)  
 Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))  
 Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock \$0.001 par value per share	ASXC	NYSE American

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure**

On January 13, 2022, Asensus Surgical, Inc. (the "Company") is making a corporate presentation that provides a current overview about the Company to participants at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual J.P. Morgan Healthcare Conference. The information provided during such corporate presentation is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Form 8-K.

*The information in this Item 7.01 and the Exhibit 99.1 attached hereto shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.*

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibit

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	<a href="#">Corporate Presentation of Asensus Surgical, Inc. January 2022</a>
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted in inline XBRL)

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: January 13, 2022

**ASENSUS SURGICAL, INC.**

/s/ Shameze Rampertab

Shameze Rampertab

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer



# 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL J.P. MORGAN HEALTHCARE CONFERENCE

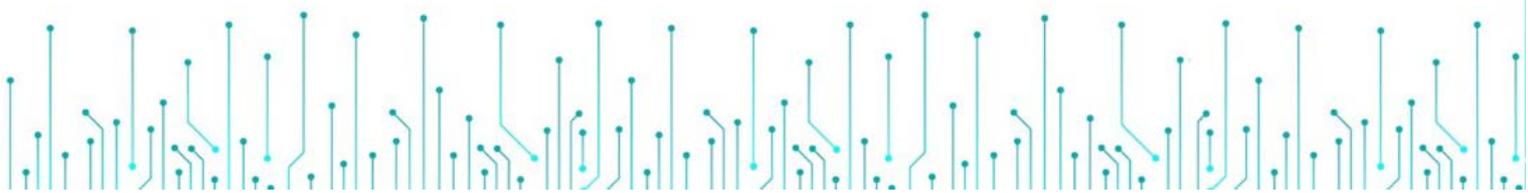
Anthony Fernando, President & CEO  
Shameze Rampertab, EVP & CFO

January 13, 2022

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## Forward Looking Statements

This presentation includes statements relating to the Senhance<sup>®</sup> Surgical System's market development and a general corporate update for Asensus Surgical. These statements and other statements regarding our future plans and goals constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and are intended to qualify for the safe harbor from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that are often difficult to predict, are beyond our control, and which may cause results to differ materially from expectations. Factors that could cause our results to differ materially from those described include, but are not limited to, whether we can successfully advance our Performance-Guided Surgery™ initiative, the market development activities related to the Senhance Surgical System will be successful, the pace of adoption of our products by surgeons will increase, the success and market opportunity of our products, the impact of the ongoing pandemic on our business and our customers, the effect on our business of existing and new regulatory requirements, and other economic and competitive factors. For a discussion of the risks and uncertainties associated with the Company's business, please review our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which are based on our expectations as of the date of this presentation and speak only as of the origination date of this presentation. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.





We believe in digitizing the interface between the surgeon and patient to pioneer a new era of **Performance-Guided Surgery** by **unlocking the Clinical Intelligence** to enable consistently superior outcomes and a new standard of surgery.

# Asensus Surgical (NYSE American: ASXC)

Early-Commercial Stage Company Developing the Future of Surgery

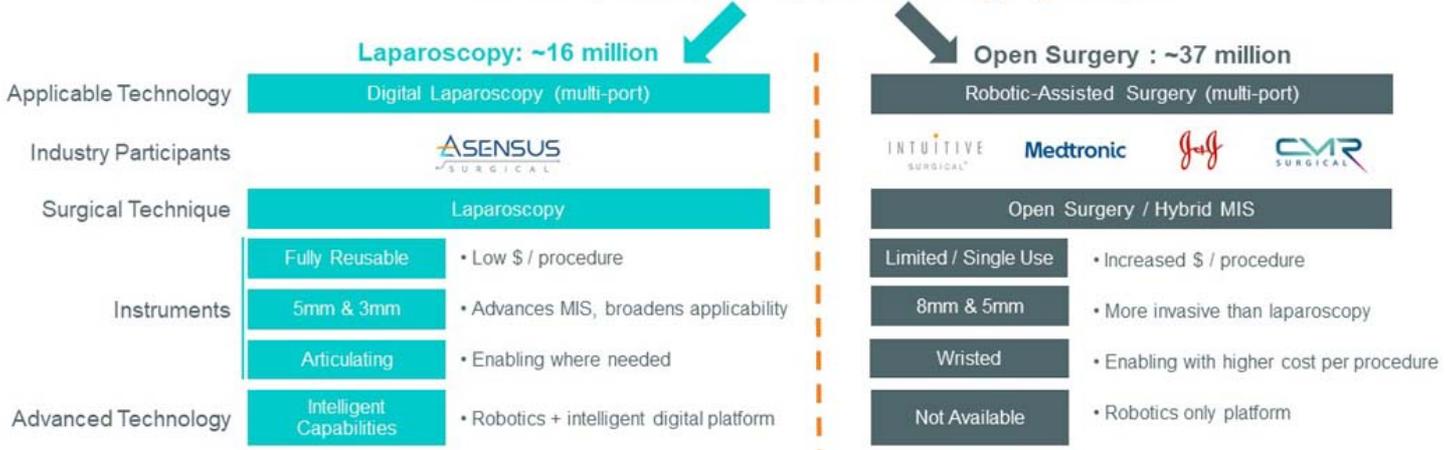
 <p><b>Regulatory Approvals</b> U.S. EU and Japan</p>	 <p><b>6 Global Training Centers</b></p>	 <p><b>100+</b> Active Surgeon Users</p>
 <p><b>39 Active Clinical Sites</b> in US, EU &amp; Asia</p>	 <p><b>6,000+</b> Surgeries Performed</p>	 <p><b>Compelling Per Procedure Economics</b></p>
 <p><b>1st</b> eye-sensing camera control haptic feedback 3 mm robotic instruments augmented intelligence and machine vision real-time surgical image analytics pediatrics with robotic 3 mm</p>	 <p><b>Strong Talented Global Team &amp; Infrastructure</b></p>	 <p><b>Fully Integrated Machine Vision &amp; AI* in Surgery</b></p>

\* Augmented Intelligence

# We Are Uniquely Focused on Laparoscopy and Why That Matters

An Opportunity And Need To Create Value Beyond Robotics

## Global Soft Tissue Abdominal Surgery Market



*Senhance is the only platform able to address the conversion of laparoscopy by leveraging standard laparoscopic tools, digital information and decision support tools*

**< 5% robotic penetration after 20+ years**

*Competitors are following the Da Vinci model and focusing on open surgery conversion*



# Senhance System Addresses Key Challenges Facing Hospitals and Surgeons

Building The Bridge From Laparoscopy To Performance-Guided Surgery



A **digital fulcrum** sets a dynamic virtual pivot point that helps potentially minimize the incision trauma

**Standard reusable instruments** keep costs similar to traditional laparoscopic instruments

**Digital Laparoscopy** maintains familiar motion, ancillary tools, and techniques

The **3DHD visualization** provides the surgeon with additional intelligence regarding depth and spatial relation of organs

**Eye-tracking camera control** where the system can sense the surgeon's eye activity, allowing camera control

**Open-platform architecture** allows use and integration of existing OR technologies to maximize benefit from capital investments and support surgeon preference

**Haptic sensing** of the platform heightens the surgeon sensing of pressure/tension through alerts if pressure threshold is reached for an added layer of security not currently available elsewhere

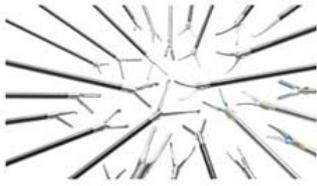
Allows the surgeon to be seated in an **ergonomically comfortable position** throughout the procedure



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# Digitizing Laparoscopic Instrumentation

Broad Instrumentation Portfolio Adds Unique Advantages For Surgeons And Patients



**Core Laparoscopic**



**Ultrasonic**



**3mm**



**Articulating**

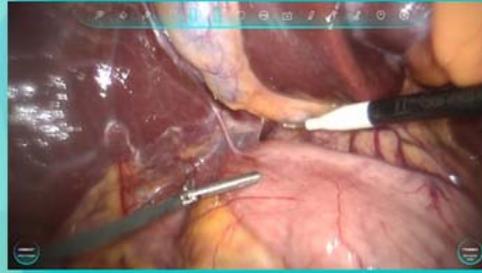
*Developed broad instrument portfolio with 70+ instruments in the catalog*

*New standard in minimally invasive robotic surgery with 3mm instruments*

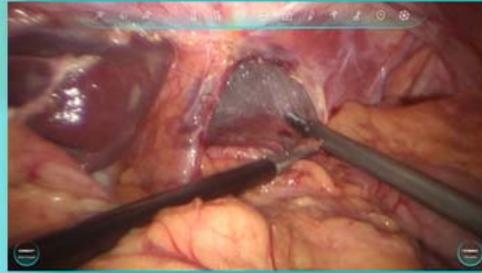
*Reusable instruments enable compelling per procedure economics*

# ISU: The First Machine Vision System In Minimally Invasive Surgery

Laying The Foundation For Digitizing Surgery → Enabling The Future of Performance-Guided Surgery



Vision Based  
Real-Time 3D  
Point to Point  
Measurement



Real-Time Defect  
Identification and  
Sizing



ISU – Intelligent Surgical Unit™, Some features are still in development and the safety or effectiveness of these features have not been established.

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# Senhance Connect

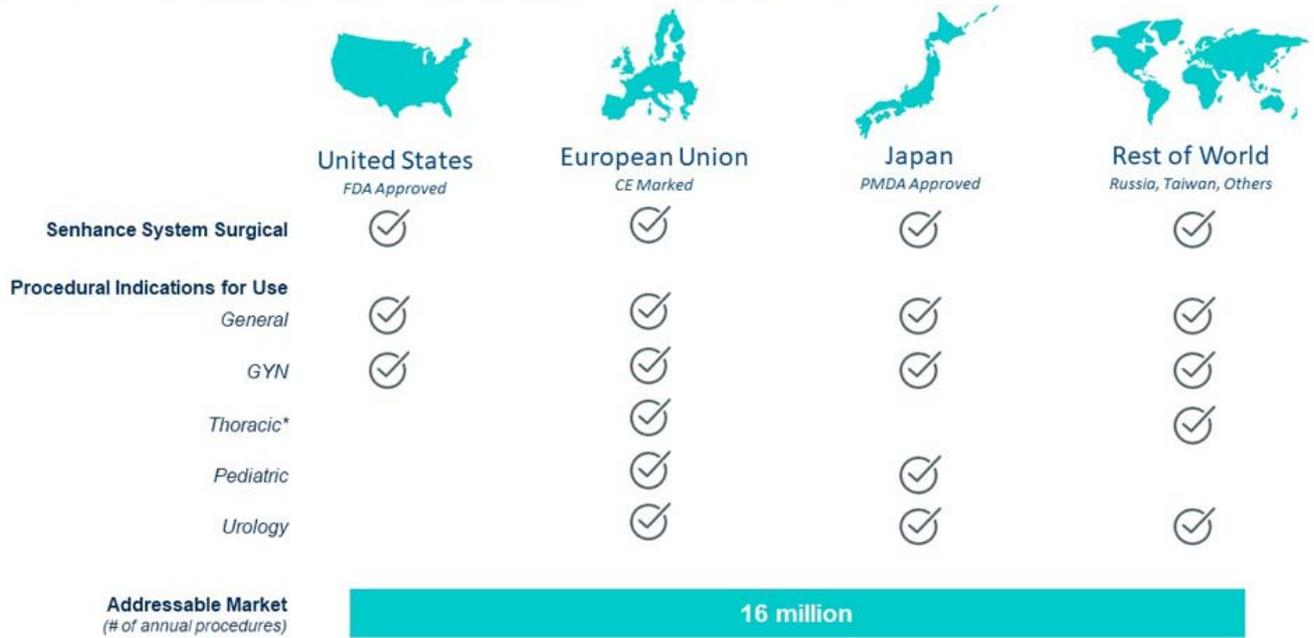
Mobile In-OR Surgeon Communication System



- Connects expert Senhance Surgeons across the globe
- Streams multiple camera views and the endoscopic view simultaneously
- Allows 2-way screen sharing and annotation

# Robust Global Applicability

High Volume Procedural Approvals Widely Available To Address Significant Markets



\*Non-cardiac, upper abdominal procedures

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## Our Path To Market Leadership

Delivering A New Era In Digital Surgery

- 1 Educate surgeons on the benefits of Senhance
- 2 Grow global installed base
- 3 Increase global procedure volume
- 4 Expand the portfolio
- 5 Continue the technological advancement Digital Surgical tools

# 1 Educating Surgeons On The Benefits Of Senhance

Grow Compelling Set of Data to Demonstrate Clinical and Economic Value

**70+**  
peer review  
articles to date

- Focused on the following data:
- Health economics
    - Cost per procedure
    - Procedure times/workflow
  - Usability across specialties
  - Clinical outcomes

## The TransEnterix European Patient Registry for Robotic-Assisted Laparoscopic Procedures in Urology, Abdominal, Thoracic, and Gynecologic Surgery ("TRUST")

Dieter Steyer <sup>1, 2, 3, 4</sup>  
Affiliations: <sup>1</sup> Inspira  
PMID: 33513657 DOI: 10.1016/j.euro.2020.08.001

**Abstract**  
Introduction: Robotic-assisted laparoscopic surgery (RAL) has become the standard of care for many minimally-invasive laparoscopic procedures. However, the long-term safety and efficacy of RAL compared to open and laparoscopic-assisted surgery remains unclear. The TransEnterix European Patient Registry for Robotic-Assisted Laparoscopic Procedures in Urology, Abdominal, Thoracic, and Gynecologic Surgery (TRUST) is a multicenter, prospective, observational study designed to evaluate the safety and efficacy of RAL compared to open and laparoscopic-assisted surgery in a real-world setting. The study includes patients undergoing RAL for urologic, abdominal, thoracic, and gynecologic procedures. The primary endpoint is the 30-day mortality rate. Secondary endpoints include the 30-day morbidity rate, the 30-day hospital length of stay, and the 30-day cost of care. The study is currently ongoing and will report results in the near future.

## Upper urinary tract surgery and radical prostatectomy with Senhance® robotic system: Single center experience-First 100 cases

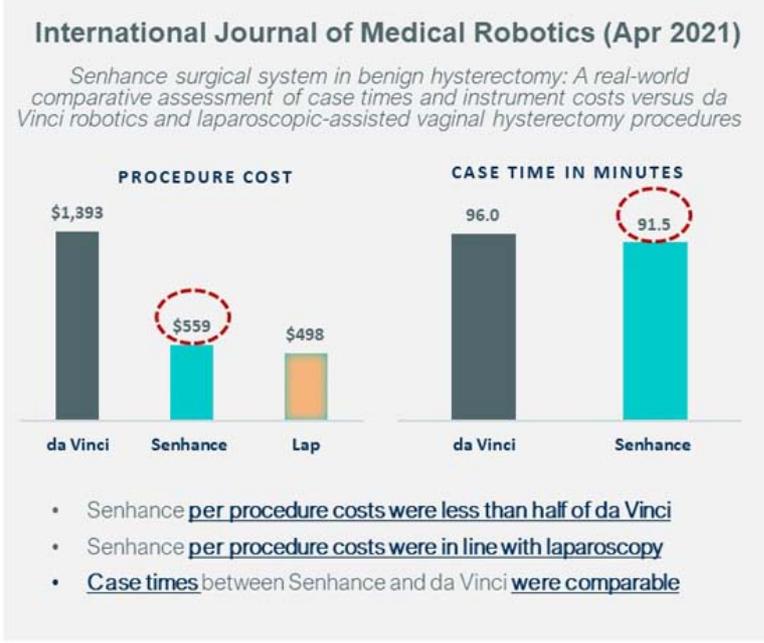
Zeynep Karahan <sup>1, 2</sup>, Senku H. Madenli <sup>1, 2</sup>, Tunc Zeyneloğlu <sup>1, 2</sup>  
Affiliations: <sup>1</sup> Inspira  
PMID: 33593006 DOI: 10.1016/j.euro.2020.08.002

**Abstract**  
Introduction: The Senhance® robotic system is a minimally-invasive, single-incision, laparoscopic-assisted surgical platform. It is designed to provide a more ergonomic and intuitive surgical experience for the surgeon. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the safety and efficacy of the Senhance® robotic system in the treatment of upper urinary tract surgery and radical prostatectomy. The study included 100 patients who underwent these procedures using the Senhance® robotic system. The primary endpoint was the 30-day mortality rate. Secondary endpoints included the 30-day morbidity rate, the 30-day hospital length of stay, and the 30-day cost of care. The study is currently ongoing and will report results in the near future.

## Inguinal hernia TAPP repair using Senhance® robotic platform: first multicenter report from the TRUST registry

N. E. Saravaliou <sup>1, 2, 3, 4</sup>, A. Duháček <sup>5, 6</sup>, A. Sirový <sup>7, 8</sup>, V. Křemáček <sup>9, 10</sup>, V. Janoušek <sup>11, 12</sup>, J. Šimánek <sup>13, 14</sup>, J. Dudař <sup>15, 16</sup>, J. Dvořák <sup>17, 18</sup>, J. Čech <sup>19, 20</sup>, J. Šimánek <sup>21, 22</sup>, M. Kůrková <sup>23, 24</sup>, J. Witek <sup>25, 26</sup>, J. Šalib <sup>27, 28</sup>  
Affiliations: <sup>1</sup> Inspira  
PMID: 34391213 DOI: 10.1007/s00261-021-02150-6

**Abstract**  
Purpose: The purpose of this article was to provide feasibility and safety results of robotic transabdominal preperitoneal inguinal hernia repair (robotic TAPP).  
Methods: We included 271 cases of robotic inguinal hernia TAPP repair using the Senhance® robotic platform from four different centers between March 2017 and March 2020. Key data points were intraoperative and postoperative complication rate, operating time, length of hospital stay, postoperative pain score and time required to get back to a daily routine that were recorded in the TransEnterix European Patient Registry for Robotic-assisted Laparoscopic Procedures in Urology, Abdominal Surgery, Thoracic and Gynecologic Surgery (TRUST).  
Results: We report 203 cases of unilateral and 68 cases of bilateral inguinal hernia repairs. Mean operative time was 74 ± 23 min (range 32-263 min); postoperative complications occurred in five (1.85%) cases; the intraoperative complication rate was five (1.85%). The average subjective patient



## 2 Growing Global Installed Base

Expanding Number of Systems Being Used Across Multiple Geographies



• 10 systems added in 2021

• Training Centers located in key geographies

• Growing surgeon users globally

**39**  
Active Installed  
Units

**6**  
Global Training  
Centers

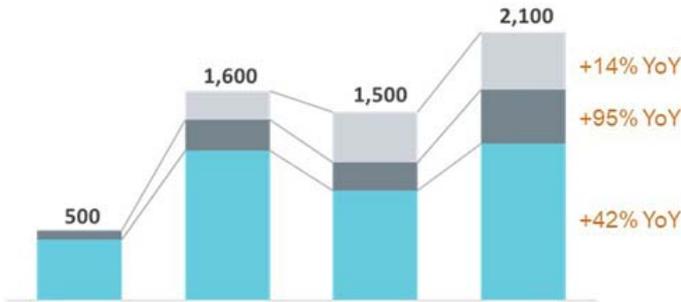
**100 +**  
Active  
Surgeons

# 3 Increasing Global Procedure Volumes

Senhance Demonstrating Strong Clinical Performance Across The Three Major Geographies

## GLOBAL CLINICAL CASE VOLUME TREND

■ EMEA ■ US ■ Asia



	2018	2019	2020	2021*
Year end Active Sites	6	18	29	39**

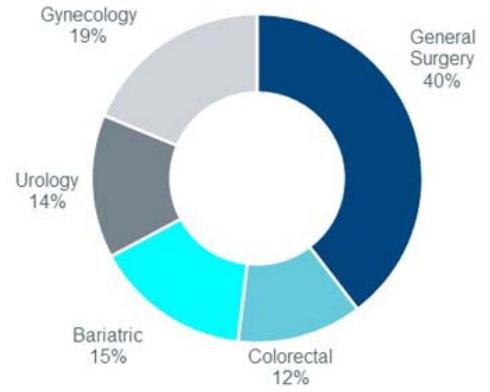
Strong clinical case performance

\*2021 Preliminary, \*\*35 Clinically active, 4 pending clinical start



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## 2021\* CASE MIX



Adoption across multiple specialty areas, demonstrating broad applicability and adoption

# 4

## Expanding The Portfolio

Broadening Applicability Through Digital Technology, Regulatory And Instrument Expansion

2021	<b>Initial ISU™</b> CE Mark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided Senhance Digital Laparoscopy programs access to new Augmented Intelligence technology</li> <li>• Brings initial Performance-Guided Surgery capabilities to European hospitals</li> </ul>
	<b>Expanded General Surgery Indication</b> FDA 510(k) clearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanded on-label applicability</li> <li>• Can be utilized in 2.7 million annual procedures</li> </ul>
	<b>Articulating Instruments</b>  FDA 510(k) clearance Japan PMDA Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Widens the clinical utility to a broader number of surgeons</li> <li>• Initiating limited launch before full commercialization in FY22</li> </ul>
	<b>Next Wave ISU Features</b>  FDA 510(k) clearance Japan PMDA Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next phase in progress towards Performance-Guided Surgery</li> <li>• Provide advanced Machine Vision and Augmented Intelligence capabilities</li> <li>• Only robotic platform to offer scene recognition and surgical image analytics</li> </ul>

# 5

## Continue The Technological Advancement Of Digital Surgical Tools

Focused Investment To Deliver The Future Of Surgery

Robust Digital Laparoscopy platform  
built on the fundamentals of MIS



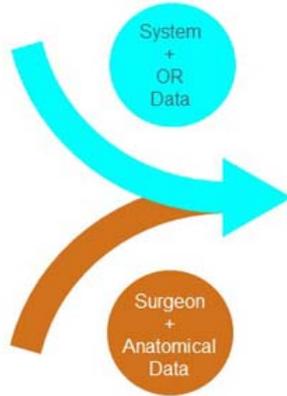
Senhance

Intelligent Surgical Unit™ (ISU™)



Senhance

Digital Platform capable of machine  
vision and augmented intelligence to  
enable real-time surgical analytics

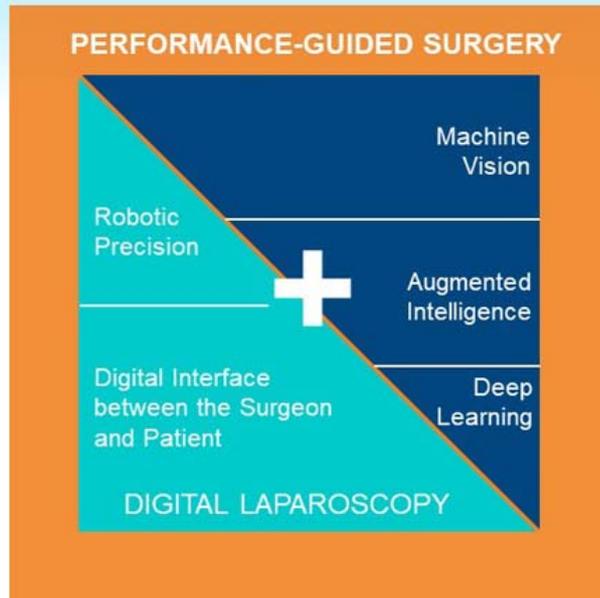


## Performance-Guided Surgery



Clinical Intelligence to unlock superior  
outcomes with surgery

# Performance-Guided Surgery



Improved Decision Making

Improved Collaboration

Improved Predictability

# Surgical Paradigm

Mapping Categories To The Surgical Value Chain

## Laparoscopy

Manual Control

## Robotic Surgery

Robotic Precision and Control

## Digital Laparoscopy

Advanced Sensing, Digital Insights

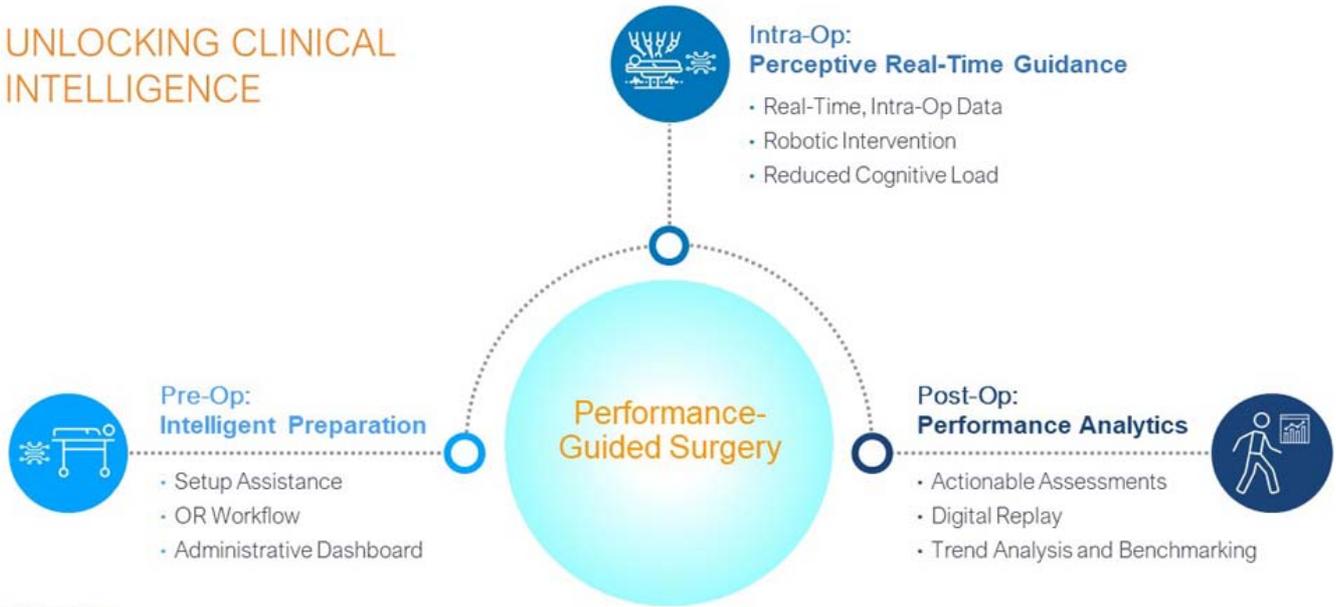
## Performance-Guided Surgery

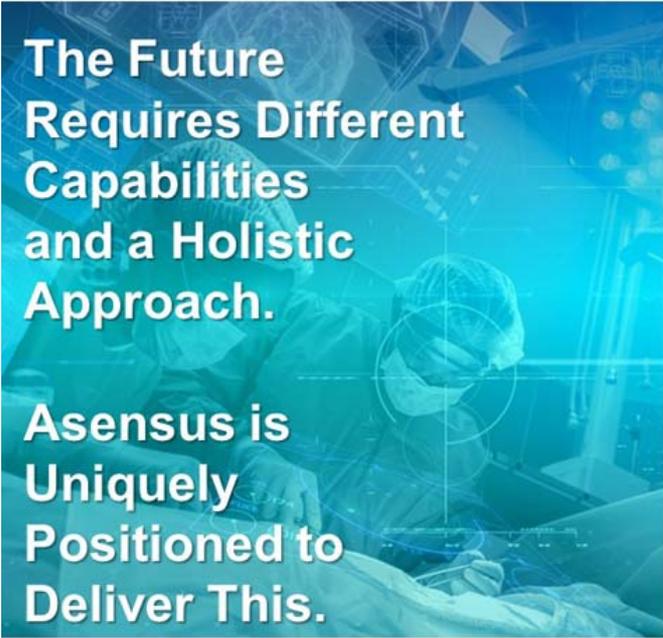
Intelligent Preparation, Perceptive Real-Time Guidance



# The Surgical Assurance Framework

## UNLOCKING CLINICAL INTELLIGENCE





The Future  
Requires Different  
Capabilities  
and a Holistic  
Approach.

Asensus is  
Uniquely  
Positioned to  
Deliver This.



- 1 **Increase safety** for better outcomes which lead to better patient and provider satisfaction
- 2 **Reduce surgical variability** and factors that contribute to poor outcomes
- 3 **Guide surgeons** to successfully navigate when unexpected events occur to effectively reduce surgical errors and complications
- 4 **Provide real-time clinical intelligence** and capabilities to create more predictable outcomes to meet value-based care constraints

## 2021 Financials (Unaudited)

- 2021 Revenue ~ \$7.9-8.3 million
  - 147%-159% increase over 2020
- December 31, 2021 Balance Sheet Highlights
  - Cash, cash equivalents, short-term and long-term investments~ \$135 million
  - No Debt

# Surgery Reimagined

Performance-Guided Surgery – next  
level technology that completely  
changes the idea of what's possible.

# A SENSUS

S U R G I C A L

