

# Starpack

## Packaging's Most Prestigious Awards

The Starpack Awards scheme has been running since 1960, and is the premier UK annual award scheme recognising innovation in packaging design and technology. Run by IOP: The Packaging Society, Starpack constitute the UK packaging industry's most prestigious awards, aiming to help raise packaging standards in the UK by rewarding and encouraging innovation & creativity.

### AstraZeneca Zoladex SafeSystem Syringe wins Technical Innovation Award 2006 for Jones Garrard

Technical excellence was high on the agenda across all categories but the ultimate winner of the Technical Innovation Award 2006 was the Zoladex™ SafeSystem™ Syringe for AstraZeneca.

Presented to any entry where the judges believe significant technological innovation has been demonstrated, the syringe was described by the head judge Terry Robins as “a brilliant piece of technical innovation and design to create a one piece syringe developed to prevent accidental stick injuries”.

Needlestick injuries are wounds caused by needles that accidentally puncture the skin and are a serious hazard for people who work with hypodermic syringes and other needle equipment. It is estimated that there are some 1.5 million accidental needle-stick injuries around the world as a result of needle based diagnostic or therapeutic procedures.

The new AZ SafeSystem™ syringe for Zoladex™ is a pre-filled single-use aseptic packaging and delivery system that has been specifically developed to meet three objectives. Firstly, to contain and protect the therapeutic drug during transit and storage, secondly, to provide an effective means of administering the dose into the subcutaneous tissue of the patient and thirdly, and most importantly, to offer automatic protection to the user from the specific risk of accidental needle stick injury in the critical post injection and product disposal phase.

To achieve this the SafeSystem™ protects the user from the needle by a plastic sleeve that has been carefully and innovatively engineered into the product. The plastic sleeve is automatically activated by as a seamless action towards the end of the injection process. The elegance of the system is that no additional or sequential action is required from the clinician and as the needle is removed from the injection site the sleeve of the SafeSystem™ is driven forward under spring force to provide the user with continuous protection from the emerging needle.

Just prior to complete removal of the needle tip the sleeve irreversibly locks in place completely protecting the needle post removal allowing safe handling and disposal of the used unit.

The SafeSystem™ pack is the result of 3 years innovative concept design and development by Jones Garrard, with manufacturing translation by Perlos Corporation. The device has been launched in over 100 countries and Zoladex™ SafeSystem™ Syringe sales are currently in excess of 1 billion dollars per annum

The SafeSystem Syringe was also a winner of a Silver Star – Best Inclusive Pack a Bronze Star – Best Innovative Pack and a Finalist – Total Processing and Packaging Exhibition 2007 Award: Innovative Pack.

