

For Immediate Release

Contact: Jared Greer
Lapovations, LLC
Phone: (479) 304-0436
Email: jared@lapovations.com

Lapovations, LLC Promotes Nhiem Cao to Chief Operating Officer

FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS (September 22, 2020) – Lapovations, LLC, a medical device company creating a platform of innovative products to improve laparoscopy (minimally invasive abdominal surgery), announced today the promotion of Nhiem Cao to Chief Operating Officer. He will have the primary responsibility for day-to-day administrative and operational functions at the company.

“Nhiem has been a key contributor to the success of our company, including playing a critical role in securing significant non-dilutive grant funding to support the development of our first product, AbGrab®,” said Jared Greer, Co-Founder and CEO of Lapovations.

Mr. Cao joined the company in 2018 as Director of Operations and quickly contributed to product development and securing grant funding for the company. Mr. Cao was previously the Co-Founder and CEO of cycleWood Solutions, a company that developed a sustainable alternative to single-use plastic bags.

Mr. Cao received a Chemical Engineering degree and MBA from the University of Arkansas, is a named inventor on 6 US Patents and a member of Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society.

About Lapovations

Lapovations was formed in the graduate-level New Venture Development course co-taught by Carol Reeves and Sarah Goforth with the Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the University of Arkansas. In 2018, Lapovations became the most successful startup competition team in U of A history, winning seven state, regional and national business plan competitions, placing second in two others, and earning over \$305,000 in cash and investment prizes.

Lapovations was recently awarded a \$1M Phase II grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), and in 2019 were awarded a \$225K NSF Phase I grant and a \$50K grant by Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC) as part of the Arkansas Small Business Innovation Research Matching Grant Program.

Lapovations has also participated in two competitive Arkansas accelerator programs, the Delta I-Fund and Health InnovatAR (now HealthTech Arkansas), that provided an additional \$100,000 in combined investment along with valuable mentorship for Lapovations and introductions to key stakeholders in the startup and medical communities.

For more information, please visit www.lapovations.com.

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