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**For Immediate Release**

**ThisMakesMeSick.Com LAUNCHES TO EXPOSE  
AMERICA'S MEDICAL LIABILITY CRISIS**

*Inventor Dr. Robert Fischell, TED and Common Good  
partner to increase awareness of a problem that is ruining  
our healthcare system*

**(November 4, 2005) New York** – In an effort to save America's healthcare system, renowned medical inventor **Dr. Robert Fischell** and the TED community introduce [www.ThisMakesMeSick.com](http://www.ThisMakesMeSick.com). This blog is an effort by Dr. Fischell and TED to bring awareness to the medical liability crisis and lead people to Common Good ([www.cgood.org](http://www.cgood.org)) and other groups that are working to solve this issue which affects all Americans. **ThisMakesMeSick.com** will emphasize this crisis by reporting horrific medical errors, frivolous lawsuits that clog the nation's court system and skyrocketing malpractice insurance rates. In addition to Dr. Fischell, the blog will feature guest editors from the Common Good legal and medical policy community as well as the TED community.

"The situation in the USA relative to the excessive use of the courts to resolve imagined and actual medical errors really does make me sick," says Dr. Fischell. "We have reached a point where many of the most qualified M.D.s are leaving the profession at a time when there is already a great shortage of medical doctors. The time has come for all citizens of this great country to adopt a new system for compensating injured patients."

"I'm excited that TEDsters have come together to help create a really innovative way of getting behind Dr. Fischell's vision. Now there's a great place on the web whose tone matches the sense of outrage everyone should feel about the insanity of the current system. With enough public interest, there's a great chance of accelerating support for the brilliant idea of health courts proposed by Common Good," adds Chris Anderson, Curator of the TED Conference.

As a 2005 **TED Prize** winner, Dr. Fischell was granted three wishes, a financial contribution and the TED Community's resources to help leverage his efforts to make it happen. One such wish was to do something about this legal and medical crisis in America—leading to the formation of a Brain Trust and the creation of [thismakesmesick.com](http://thismakesmesick.com). In addition to granting Dr. Fischell's wishes, the TED community has also worked to grant the wishes of the additional 2005 TED Prize winners: musician Bono and artist Ed Burtynsky.

#### About TED

For the past 20 years, more than 800 thought-leaders, movers and shakers who comprise the TED community (Technology, Entertainment, Design) have gathered together to share ideas and passions to change the world. TED 2006 will be held February 22 – 25 in Monterey, California. For more information on TED and the TED Prize, please log onto [www.ted.com](http://www.ted.com).

#### About Robert Fischell

The holder of more than 200 U.S. and foreign patents, Fischell began his work in space development, including the creation of a 16-satellite system called Transit that was a key precursor to GPS. Fischell's true genius is his ability to see across technologies and sciences. His uncanny intuition allowed him to invent special features of the implantable cardiac defibrillator that has saved more than 60,000 lives - followed by the implantable insulin pump, coronary stents used to open clogged arteries, and two extraordinary feedback systems that provide early warning of epileptic seizures and heart attacks. Fischell is now 75, yet still has a host of potent ideas capable of igniting the TED community to action.

#### About Common Good

Common Good ([www.cgood.org](http://www.cgood.org)) is a bi-partisan legal reform coalition dedicated to restoring common sense to American law. Its board is composed of leaders in a wide range of fields: former government officials, including Howard Baker, Griffin Bell, Bill Bradley, Newt Gingrich, Eric Holder, George McGovern, Diane Ravitch, Alan Simpson, and Richard Thornburgh; current and former university presidents, including William Brody, Tom Kean, George Rupp, and John Silber; and numerous other leaders in education, healthcare, law, business and public policy. The Chair of Common Good is Philip K. Howard, a lawyer and author of The Death of Common Sense and The Collapse of the Common Good.

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