



# STENTYS

## CEO Profile

**Gonzague Issenmann is on a mission:** To empower cardiologists with a simple yet effective solution for clogged coronary arteries in two significant trouble areas—(1) *bifurcation* sites; and, (2) *acute myocardial infarctions*, where perfect *apposition* of a stent to the vessel's wall is critical in successful PCI treatment of AMI.

By the time he was 28 years old, France native Gonzague Issenmann was working in a foreign country, hiring and then leading 180 fellow employees to build — *from scratch* — a parts manufacturing plant for international auto giant Peugeot. “I was much younger than many of the employees I was managing,” he says, “but in the end, results count, and we got the plant built *on schedule* and *on budget*, a feat I am very proud of.”

In 2005, ‘Gonz’ Issenmann accepted another *building from scratch* challenge. Former professor and cardiac surgeon Jacques Séguin, M.D., Ph.D. (who previously founded 1st-generation bifurcated stent company Devax and PAVR company CoreValve, acquired by Medtronic in 02/09) was looking for the right executive to breathe life into his newest start-up: Stentys. “I was looking for that rare combination of talent, focus and experience,” says Dr. Séguin. “We are fortunate that our paths intersected at just the right time.”

“I was enthralled by the opportunity of taking Dr. Séguin’s novel idea, which was literally scratched onto a piece of paper, and turning it into a transforming technology,” recalls Gonz.

At the time he was approached by Dr. Séguin to start-up Stentys, Gonz had been an executive with global stent powerhouse Cordis Corporation, a Johnson & Johnson company. Prior to being promoted to Finance Controller for Cordis/Europe before he joined Stentys, Gonz had served as a Cordis Sales Representative covering northern France, orchestrating €2 million of annual sales that included three of the top-five key accounts in the French market.

“What I really wanted was to find a doctor with a powerful idea who needed a business partner,” says Gonz. “Jacques Séguin is a brilliant inventor. His plate was full with CoreValve at the time he approached me about starting-up Stentys.” (CoreValve was eventually sold to Medtronic for \$700 million plus earn-outs). “Remember: Jacques Séguin is also the one who invented *the whole concept* of a dedicated bifurcation stent when he founded Devax. With next-gen Stentys, we’ve perfected his original invention and have made bifurcation stenting simple. Additionally, we evolved the original concept into a broad platform, and we are now in clinical trials with a *second* indication: to ensure perfect apposition related to AMI stenting.”



### Personal

38. Married 14 years, three children (13, 9 and 6). Interests include: international environments and foreign cultures; as well as outdoor activities such as hiking, skiing, scuba diving and squash. Known as a very ‘focused’ person, also considered a ‘fast-tracker’ by close friends and family members. ‘Entrepreneurial’ by nature. Agrees with U.S.-born French author Natalie Clifford Barney: “Youth is not a question of years; one is ‘young’ or ‘old’ from birth.”

### Education

INSEAD (“The Business School for the World”), MBA (2001); Ecole Centrale Paris, Msc (1995); fluent in three languages (French, English and German).

### Professional Highlights

3Q 2005—Present: Co-founder of Stentys (Paris and Princeton, NJ); serves as the Company’s CEO.

2002—2Q 2005: **CORDIS** (a Johnson & Johnson company based in Brussels, Belgium): several positions, including Finance Controller Europe (most recently); Sales Representative; and Communications Manager.

1997—2000: **Peugeot**. Started-up and managed a new manufacturing facility in Ontario, Canada, dedicated to an all-new product line of auto parts for the North American automobile market.