

Dear Clinician,

Thank you for visiting AlternativeElectrodes.com. I hope you enjoy your experience. Feel free to send me any questions or comments you might have.

You are probably reading this page because you have been told that you can't use Alternative Electrodes to treat swallowing disorders. That's not surprising. Ever since I started offering my electrodes in 2006 comments have been made that question the safety or the legality of using Alternative Electrodes. These comments are not true and are simply trying you to convince you to use electrodes that are more expensive than they should be. The attached press release should help answer your questions. It is several years old, but it addresses issues that are still being raised today.

Be assured that my electrodes are of the highest quality possible and they equal or surpass competitive electrodes in patient comfort and performance. They are made in the USA for maximum quality and reliability and they come in a variety of shapes and sizes for maximum versatility. They are not cheap electrodes imported from out of the country.

This press release officially announces an out-of-court settlement of a lawsuit that was filed in 2009 by AlternativeElectrodes against VitalStim and DJO for making false statements about my electrodes.

As part of this settlement, in an official statement written by DJO, it is stated that:

1. There are no known adverse events from clinicians using my electrodes and that they cannot show that my electrodes are unsafe in any way.
2. There is no legal reason (FDA or otherwise) preventing clinicians from using my electrodes and therefore putting their licenses at risk.

Be assured that there are no reasons to not use Alternative Electrodes. I am looking forward to having you as a customer and serving your electrode needs.

Thanks again, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



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## **Alternative Electrodes LLC Announces Settlement of Unfair Competition Lawsuit Against VitalStim and Related Entities**

*Palm City, Florida, December 31, 2009* –Alternative Electrodes LLC, [www.AlternativeElectrodes.com](http://www.AlternativeElectrodes.com), announced today that it has settled the lawsuit it filed in March 2008 against DJO Incorporated, VitalStim LLC, Encore Medical, L.P. and affiliated companies (collectively “VitalStim”) in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York alleging Lanham Act violations, antitrust violations, unfair competition, and other business torts.

The terms of the settlement are confidential. However, as a result of the settlement, DJO LLC (the parent company of the VitalStim entities) states as follows:

**DJO wishes to clarify certain statements made previously about the use of Alternative Electrodes’ (AE) replacement electrodes with the VitalStim device. While DJO does not recommend or approve the use of AE electrodes with the VitalStim device, DJO has not conducted formal testing establishing that AE products are unsafe for such use. At this time, DJO is not aware of any adverse events resulting from the use of AE electrodes with the VitalStim device in the field. DJO is not aware that there is any legal prohibition on clinicians, therapists and administrators of VitalStim Therapy using AE electrodes with their device, or that the use of AE electrodes with the device would lead to the loss of such persons’ medical licenses. Clinicians, therapists and other administrators of VitalStim Therapy must use their professional judgment in treating patients with dysphagia.**

“I am delighted to see this case settled,” said Tom Ireland, President and CEO of Alternative Electrodes. “Our position has always been that there are no legal, regulatory, safety or other issues which would prevent speech pathologists from using our electrodes. We hope the resolution of this lawsuit will encourage new customers to try Alternative Electrodes.”

“We introduced our mini-snap electrodes in 2006 so speech pathologists could have a choice of vendors. Since that time, Alternative Electrodes have been safely and effectively used for over 300,000 treatments. Our electrodes have been cleared by the FDA for use on the face and the anterior portion of the neck, and are high-quality, silver-carbon electrodes which are reusable and which offer significant savings to hospitals, nursing homes and other facilities. In today’s economic climate, all electrode users should consider switching to Alternative Electrodes.”

### **About Alternative Electrodes LLC**

Based in Florida, Alternative Electrodes LLC is a privately held distributor of high-quality electrodes. For questions about Alternative Electrodes, please contact Tom Ireland, President and CEO, at 772-408-8085 or via [www.AlternativeElectrodes.com](http://www.AlternativeElectrodes.com).