

JOHN DIXON (Expert on Obesity & Bariatric Surgery): The LAP-BAND® System was developed here in the United States. It was--it was developed by a company called Bioenterics many years ago--back in the late eighties and early nineties.

It was introduced around the world when the first laproscopic procedure for obesity was done— it was a LAP-BAND® procedure, it was performed in Belgium in 1993.

Since then, the world has really taken to the LAP-BAND®. It's been used in countries throughout Europe, South America and Asia.

And it was not until 2001 that it became available and was approved by the FDA for use in the United States. Since that time there's many hundreds of thousands of these LAP-BAND's that have been placed, and there's many hundred of thousands of very satisfied people who've lost a sustained amount of weight.