Researchers at the University of South Florida have invented ossicular discontinuity secondary to an incus deficiency that is one of the most commonly encountered problems in middle ear surgery. The technology provides a device to restore hearing to individuals who have a discontinuity in the middle ear sound conductive mechanism. The device addresses a specific problem, which arises often in middle ear surgery. Currently available middle ear prostheses are inadequate to remedy the specific problem of a lateral relationship of the stapes capitulum to the malleus, necessitating a cartilage graft, which has poor sound conductive properties. The technology provides a middle ear prosthesis that solves the problems associated with the lateral relationship of the stapes capitulum to the malleus.

**ADVANTAGES:**

- Anchors the prosthesis to the inner wall of the tympanum of the ear.
- Suspends a vibratory segment of the prosthesis under the malleus thereby reducing the chance that the head of the prosthesis will become trapped between the umbo and the promontory.

**Photograph illustrating the prosthesis viewed from the side.**

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