



3 October, 2006

Pentax Professor of Endoscopy to focus on endo-microscopy

- **Will help grow market presence of Optiscan's endo-microscopes**

Pentax announced in Germany late last week that Pentax Europe has endowed a professorial position for endoscopy at the Johannes Gutenberg University Hospital in Mainz, Germany with endo-microscopy being a central focus.

This endowment is part of Pentax's strategy to grow their market presence through the successful commercialisation of new endoscopic instruments and techniques. Endo-microscopy is an essential component of that strategy.

Forging closer ties with this leading German research and teaching hospital will also be a positive influence for Pentax's ongoing clinical trial program in endo-microscopy. The associated press release from Johannes Gutenberg University Hospital noted "with these new endoscopic techniques, improvements in diagnostic and therapeutic approaches for early cancers of the colon and the esophagus are possible. Pentax would like to support such advances and therefore decided to fund a professorial position."

A copy of the press release by Pentax Europe is attached.

Background

Optiscan is a global leader in microscopic imaging technologies for medical markets.

Optiscan's unique and patented technologies enable high-powered microscopes to be miniaturised and used inside the body. The technology enables microscopic imaging of up to 1000 times magnification to be achieved. Doctors can use the technology to instantly see cellular level details of tissue without the requirement to surgically remove tissue (biopsy).

Optiscan has licensed Pentax to use its patented miniaturised microscope technology in the world's first fully functional flexible endo-microscope, which was released for sale into the global market earlier this year.

Optiscan is now looking to commercialise its technology in the rigid endoscope market, which is worth US\$1B pa. Optiscan is in dialogue with four potential partners under CDA.

Further information:

Matthew Barnett, CEO
Tel (613) 9538 3347
matthewb@optiscan.com

Bruce Andrew, CFO
Tel (613) 9538 3398
brucea@optiscan.com



Medical Education Centre Mainz: Johannes-Gutenberg-Universität (I. Med. Clinic) and PENTAX Europe GmbH (LIFE CARE) to promote endoscopy research and teaching in Germany

Mainz, Germany, 28 September 2006. The University of Mainz (Johannes-Gutenberg-Universität Mainz) and PENTAX LIFE CARE are both keen to make a contribution to future developments in high-quality research and teaching in the field of endoscopy. Prof. Dr. F. Zepp (Vice Dean), Prof. Dr. P. R. Galle (Director of I. Med. Clinic), Mr. I. Okamoto (PENTAX Corporation) and Mr. H. Beyer (PENTAX Europe GmbH) therefore today signed an agreement to concretise the cooperation between the two partners and to introduce a professorship in endoscopy at the university.

“In addition to offering the standard intellectual university content, the target of this agreement is to provide training sessions and seminars with a particular focus on new technologies such as endomicroscopy,” said Prof. Dr. Galle of the cooperation, “and will extend its research programme to discover new indications and applications in endoscopy.”

Endomicroscopy will play a special role in this context. There is already data available proving the benefits of this method in the upper and lower GI tracts. Data also suggests that the method has a clinical performance comparable to that of conventional histology for distinguishing between intraepithelial neoplasia and non-neoplastic mucosa (*Gastroenterology* 2004;127:706–13).

“The challenge that has now been taken up by the University Mainz and PENTAX is to work continuously on improving the medical situation from the perspective of future trends by combining research, development and teaching”, said Mr. Ikuzo Okamoto.

PENTAX Campus, an educational resource that already offers various teaching modules and now has a strong partner in the First Medical Education Centre will advance in this direction in the coming years.

Contact:
Dr. Daniel Zeidler
European Marketing Manager
PENTAX Europe GmbH
LIFE CARE

Julius-Vosseler-Str. 104
D- 22527 Hamburg
+ 49 40 56192-232
+ 49 173 971 14 90
zeidler.daniel@PENTAX.de