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Endo-microscopy training expanded

- *New interactive training website launched*
- *Clinical workshop programs expanded to 8 courses throughout 2007*

Mainz, Germany: The Endomicroscopy Training Centre in Mainz has launched a significant upgrade to its training content and schedule for endomicroscopy. The enhancements include a new interactive training website and commencement of three training workshops in endo-microscopy, each delivered eight times throughout the calendar year.

The upgrade has been implemented in response to growing demand for training in endo-microscopy since Pentax product launch of the ISC1000 flexible endo-microscope in March 2006.

“Training content and delivery is an important part of market development.” said Peter Delaney, Optiscan’s Director of Technology. “The doctors at Mainz have completed more than 1000 endo-microscope procedures and are now utilising their expertise to deliver excellence in training. The new interactive website together with commencement of regular, hands on workshops will accelerate market uptake of endo-microscopy.”

There are two core components of this important training initiative.

1. A new interactive website www.endomicroscopy.org has been launched.

This site is designed to appeal to doctors, and provides an excellent introduction to endo-microscopy, with emphasis given to clinical practice and techniques.

Interactive case studies are a feature of the site. These contain patient history, standard endoscope images, endo-microscopy images and corresponding histology from biopsy (completed after the procedure). An interactive help function points out key image features used in clinical practice.

2. Content and schedules for three different training workshops have been finalised

Using their extensive clinical experience, doctors at Mainz have identified key training content for endo-microscopy workshop programs. Doctors from around the world can now attend a Mainz workshop course of either 1, 2 or 3 days duration and learn this exciting new technique from highly experienced doctors.

Collaboration between Mainz University and Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore means that training workshops appropriate for the US market will also soon be available.

The new website can also be accessed via a link on www.optiscan.com



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).

Pentax is the second largest producer of flexible endoscopes in the US\$1.2Bn pa global flexible endoscope market.

Pentax has been licensed by Optiscan to use its patented miniaturised microscope technology.

Pentax released the world's first fully functional flexible endo-microscope for sale in March 2006.

Optiscan manufactures and sells to Pentax the high value key operating components of the miniaturised endo-microscope system.

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