

New research centre adds advanced imaging capabilities with CT and MRI scanners

Collaboration with Siemens Healthcare to boost clinical innovation

The Institute of Life Science (ILS) at Swansea University has selected a MAGNETOM® Skyra 3 Tesla MRI and a SOMATOM® Definition AS+ CT scanner to enable advanced medical imaging capabilities in its new state-of-the-art research centre. The partnership between Swansea University and Siemens Healthcare was announced at the recent topping out ceremony for the new phase two building. The new facility is supported by the Welsh Assembly Government to become a focal point for medical research in the region and will develop new clinical applications, products and services for healthcare, in collaboration with local and international industrial partners.

The first phase of the Institute, which opened in 2007, provided modern laboratories to research conditions such as cancer, obesity and diabetes. The second phase will widen the portfolio of projects into the study of cardiac, neurological and psychological disorders. This includes a programme of translational research, which it is hoped will lead to discoveries across many medical disciplines to improve patient care and outcomes. The new clinical imaging facilities will play a key role in supporting this research through diagnosis, morphological and functional visualisation, minimally invasive therapies and follow-up.

The MAGNETOM Skyra is the latest, highly specified MRI scanner in the market-leading Siemens product range. The Institute will benefit from advanced coil design, 70cm open bore access for patients and ergonomics for superior patient and data handling.

The Institute has also selected a Definition AS+ CT system, the first in South Wales, which is particularly suited to high resolution imaging, rapid whole body scans and cardiac examinations. The system is dose efficient, keeping the X-ray burden of patients to an absolute minimum, whilst delivering crystal clear images.

“Advanced medical imaging is one of the cornerstones of the Institute of Life Science phase two project,” said Professor Mark Rees, Research Director at The Institute of Life Science, Swansea University. “We look forward to the future of a mutually beneficial research collaboration with Siemens that builds on its long-standing success with UK-based academic institutions.”

“The Institute of Life Science is an important research centre developing innovative ways of diagnosing and treating conditions that have traditionally imposed huge pressure on healthcare systems,” said Gunter Dombrowe, Group Managing Director of Siemens Healthcare. “We are delighted to be associated with this programme and are confident that our technology will make a big contribution to its success. We are also pleased to be taking another step in expanding our company’s presence in Wales.”

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About Siemens Healthcare

The **Siemens Healthcare Sector** is one of the world's largest suppliers to the healthcare industry and a trendsetter in medical imaging, laboratory diagnostics, medical information technology and hearing aids. Siemens offers its customers products and solutions for the entire range of patient care from a single source – from prevention and early detection to diagnosis, and on to treatment and aftercare. By optimizing clinical workflows for the most common diseases, Siemens also makes healthcare faster, better and more cost-effective. Siemens Healthcare employs some 48,000 employees worldwide and operates around the world. In fiscal year 2010 (to September 30), the Sector posted revenue of 12.4 billion euros and profit of around 750 million euros. For further information please visit: www.siemens.com/healthcare.

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Picture caption: (Left to right): Professor Mark Rees, Research Director at The Institute of Life Science, Swansea University, welcomes Gunter Dombrowe, Group Managing Director of Siemens Healthcare to the Institute's topping out ceremony.

