

Healthcare Sector Workflow & Solutions Division

Siemens Celebrates 1,000th Installation of Its All-in-One Digital Mammography Solution

Susan B Allen Memorial Hospital enhances imaging excellence and workflow with addition of MAMMOMAT *Novation*^{DR}

Malvern, Pa., March 10, 2009 – Siemens Healthcare (www.siemens.com/healthcare) celebrates a milestone with the 1,000th installation of its MAMMOMAT[®] *Novation*^{DR}, a full-field digital mammography system for screening, diagnostics, and biopsy applications. Susan B Allen Memorial Hospital, an 80-bed community hospital in El Dorado, Kansas, recently received the MAMMOMAT *Novation*^{DR}, the first system to merge Siemens' long-standing networking expertise with all the advantages of full-field digital mammography to optimize clinical workflow.

The MAMMOMAT *Novation*^{DR} is designed to handle the mammography workup from patient registration and image acquisition to post-processing and reading. The system features Siemens' exclusive dual anode technology. This tube offers three anode/filter combinations that match breast density and thickness – Mo/Mo, Mo/Rh, and W/Rh. With Tungsten technology and high mA output, even dense breasts are examined with shorter exposure times. Dose can be reduced by up to 50 percent, while maintaining image quality.

Currently biopsies at Susan B Allen are performed in their cancer center by surgeons, using Siemens' newly installed MammoTestTM unit, a biopsy system which visualizes smallest microcalcifications and diagnosing masses. Pathology is currently off site, but one of the facility's new goals is to improve report time.

"Our ultimate goal is to offer screening, biopsy and the pathology report in three days to patients in order to decrease patient anxiety," said David Shaw, vice president and chief operating officer at Susan B Allen. "The addition of the MAMMOMAT *Novation*^{DR} means that we can now offer a superior product and provide optimal patient comfort, via features, such as the flex paddle, as well as dose savings."

Technologists at Susan B Allen have noted the faster pace of the digital system, thanks to features such as Opdose, which automatically selects the best anode/filter combination and the lowest dose for the individual breast characteristics. For example, in the first 30 patients examined at the hospital, only one change of acquisition parameters was needed.

In addition to Opdose, MAMMOMAT *Novation*^{DR} is designed with other unique features for both patient and user comfort. Opfocus compression plate is designed for the most efficient use of the detector area and allows inclusion of a larger area of the pectoral muscle in the image. SoftSpeed slows down the compression plate after initial contact with the breast and adjusts the speed according to compression resistance. Opcomp compresses only as long as the breast is soft and pliable and stops at the point of optimal compression for optimum image quality

“With one in every eight women expected to be diagnosed with breast cancer at one point in her life, the good news is that advanced diagnostic and treatment technology developments have helped reduce death from breast cancer by approximately 24 percent since 1992,” said Regina Radtke, senior director, Women’s Health, Siemens Medical Solutions USA, Inc. “It continues to be our customers’ vision, as well as Siemens’ vision, to further improve this statistic, one woman at a time.”

MAMMOMAT *Novation*^{DR}’s large-format detector size (24 cm x 29 cm) can be used for imaging virtually all breast sizes. In addition, isocentric and motorized movements of the swivel arm allow fast and accurate image acquisition in all projections. The field of view for both large- and small-format images and magnification adjusts automatically to the compression plate in use.

Physicians can review and evaluate acquired images and prepare diagnostic reports on the *syngo*[®] MammoReport breast care workplace. *syngo* MammoReport allows all steps of the reading and reporting process to be individually tailored to meet your needs. Images and previous examinations from other modalities, including magnetic resonance (MR) and Ultrasound, can be viewed on *syngo* MammoReport, as well as mammograms from third-party mammography vendors.

MAMMOMAT *Novation*^{DR} can be integrated with virtually any storage management system – independent of the manufacturer.

Additionally, the staff at Susan B Allen gave high marks to the customer service and training that Siemens provided during the installation process. Gale Ray, mammography technologist at Susan

B Allen, praised the off-site training at Siemens' Training facility in Cary, N.C.: "It prepared me very well for operating the system in a clinical environment."

"At Susan B Allen, our motto is: 'Great health care from people you trust.' We've created a health care environment that combines a talented and compassionate staff with state-of-the-art technologies in order to provide the highest quality of patient care," said Shaw. "So, our decision to go with Siemens was a matter of trust and integrity – both qualities that we continuously experienced with their Service branch. Their customer service representative was here day in and out during the entire installation. That was awesome."

The **Siemens Healthcare Sector** is one of the world's largest suppliers to the healthcare industry. The company is a renowned medical solutions provider with core competence and innovative strength in diagnostic and therapeutic technologies as well as in knowledge engineering, including information technology and system integration. With its laboratory diagnostics acquisitions, Siemens Healthcare is the first integrated healthcare company, bringing together imaging and lab diagnostics, therapy, and healthcare information technology solutions, supplemented by consulting and support services. Siemens Healthcare delivers solutions across the entire continuum of care – from prevention and early detection, to diagnosis, therapy and care. Additionally, Siemens Healthcare is the global market leader in innovative hearing instruments. The company employs around 49,000 people worldwide and operates in 130 countries. In the fiscal year 2008 (Sept. 30), Siemens Healthcare reported sales of €11.2 billion, orders of €11.8 billion, and Sector profit of €1.2 billion. Further information can be found by visiting <http://www.siemens.com/healthcare>.