

### Healthcare Sector Imaging & IT Division

#### **Siemens Installs 300th SOMATOM Definition AS CT system**

Community Memorial Hospital brings adaptive computed tomography to rural Illinois

**Malvern, Pa., May 5, 2009 – Siemens Healthcare ([www.siemens.com/healthcare](http://www.siemens.com/healthcare)) has reached a milestone with the 300th global installation of its SOMATOM® Definition AS (Adaptive Scanner), the world's first adaptive computed tomography (CT) scanner, which adapts to virtually any patient, adapts for complete dose protection, adapts for new dimensions, and adapts to the user's space. The new system was recently installed at Community Memorial Hospital, a 25-bed, Critical Access hospital in Staunton, Ill.**

"Moving from a single-slice CT scanner to a SOMATOM Definition AS 64-slice CT scanner, has given us the privilege to serve the surrounding communities with state of the art diagnostic technology," said Wendy Webster, director of Radiology at Community Memorial. "The radiology department is now able to provide CT angiograms that only require an I.V. stick, which is vastly different from a formerly invasive procedure. The images are pristine down to the tiny vascular anatomy."

SOMATOM Definition AS has found its home in many facilities, ranging from Diagnostic Imaging Centers to leading academic institutions.

"The platform is user friendly, as well. Moving from a single to a 64-slice scanner is a huge step in technology to operate. We were very pleased that the transition was so smooth," said Webster.

"The installation of the SOMATOM Definition AS 64-Slice CT system was the first in our region, and it has certainly allowed Community Memorial to step to the forefront in regards to computed tomography," said Sue Campbell, CEO, Community Memorial Hospital. "I compare it to someone driving on unpaved country roads and suddenly turning onto a multi-lane super highway."

“This updated technology not only serves our patients and physicians much better, but it enables the hospital to increase revenue. I am totally confident that this was the best decision the hospital could have made in regards to upgrading our CT scanning capability,” Campbell said.

As CT procedure volumes continue to grow, the need for new applications is also growing. However, in the current economic climate, many hospitals are looking twice at their budgets, as some radiology departments may need to adjust their purchasing strategy. Many are looking for a scanner that will adapt to their circumstances.

The SOMATOM Definition AS adapts to each patient’s clinical situation and also opens the door to new applications in CT imaging. It features a 78-cm gantry bore and the ability to add a high-capacity 660-pound patient table. These features allow even the most clinically challenging patients (i.e., trauma and bariatric patients) to be imaged rapidly, from head to toe, without difficulty. The unique Adaptive 4D Spiral mode of the SOMATOM Definition AS is able to address functional imaging (perfusion images of blood flow over time) of whole organs. This allows Siemens to offer dynamic information of up to 27 cm. In the case of a stroke, physicians can use whole-organ perfusion imaging, not only for a small part of the brain, but for all of it.

Siemens’ unique Adaptive Dose Shield addresses the issue of unnecessary dose both before and at the end of the spiral scan range – which has been a problem of spiral multi-slice imaging – by dynamically blocking the unnecessary dose before and after the spiral scan, ensuring that the only dose applied to the patient is dose that is clinically relevant.

In addition to its extraordinary performance, the SOMATOM Definition AS is able to adapt to the space constraints many currently facilities face. It requires very little floor space, with a 190ft<sup>2</sup> footprint. This allows the Definition AS to fit into rooms that have traditionally been too small for high-end CT scanners.

The SOMATOM Definition AS is available in 20-, 40-, 64-, and 128-slice configurations. It can be field-upgraded to other configurations with minimal downtime. This allows the technology to grow with the institution’s needs, while minimizing downtime and loss of service.

The introduction of SOMATOM Definition AS 20 is closely related to the changes in the reimbursement, as well as economic environment. This latest addition to AS portfolio offers the same benefits of adaptability as all other AS scanners.

“The SOMATOM Definition AS in its 20-slice configuration offers the flexibility and upgradeability, which allows the facility to upgrade its technology and grow its clinical service lines, expand the types of studies and serve special patients, such as pediatric and bariatric,” said Kulin Hemani, vice president, CT, Siemens Healthcare. “With this new addition to the AS portfolio, Siemens is giving customers access to great technology and a system that can easily be upgraded on-site to 128 slices.

Community Memorial Hospital provides specialty services in Audiology, Cardiology/Pulmonary, Dermatology, Neurology, Oncology, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics/Sports Medicine, Otolaryngology, Podiatry and Urology. The hospital has been open to service the citizens of the area since 1951.

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>.