

# SiemensSays

## Viewpoints from Siemens Medical Solutions Executives

### In Upcoming Issues

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### Siemens CT Innovations Help Improve Patient Care and Drive Clinical Success

Scott Goodwin, Vice President, CT Division,  
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#### What are the most exciting uses for computed tomography (CT) today?

As seen at the recent American College of Cardiology (ACC) meeting, cardiovascular applications are among the most exciting areas for this modality. There was an influx of cardiologists seeking information about cardiac CT, indicating its huge growth potential. The ability to see the detailed anatomy of the heart's blood vessels is quickly changing the standards for the diagnosis of acute chest pain, as well as the screening of at-risk individuals.

CT technology enables a number of examinations to be done non-invasively, which is benefiting both patients and doctors. Siemens' *syngo*<sup>®</sup> Colonography with PEV (Polyp Enhanced Viewing) is taking much of the pain and anxiety out of colon exams, and *syngo* LungCARE with Nodule Enhanced Viewing is aiding radiologists in the meticulous process of searching for lung nodules.

#### What are some of the key issues radiologists face today regarding CT?

One of the greatest challenges for radiologists today is effectively managing a large volume of data. It was only seven years ago when single-slice CT scanners were the standard. Since the introduction of



multi-slice CT, the technology has grown exponentially – from four to 16 slices and 64 slices to dual source CT – which has significantly increased data volume. By creating intelligent, intuitive workflow and analysis tools, such as *syngo* WorkStream4D, *syngo* InSpace and *syngo* Circulation, Siemens is helping radiologists focus more on diagnoses rather than on time-consuming image management processes.

#### How is Siemens meeting the demands of imaging departments?

Siemens is clearly thinking outside the "modality box" by offering solutions that address the needs of the entire clinical

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## CT Innovations (cont.)



*This image was acquired using Siemens' SOMATOM® Definition, the world's first dual source computed tomography (CT) system. The patient was scanned to obtain a complete vascular status. A scan range of 199 centimeters was acquired in only 33 seconds. Diffuse atherosclerotic disease can be visualized with a resolution of below 0.4 millimeters.*

*Image courtesy of the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg*

area, as opposed to a single modality purchase. Solutions like our Compass CT Program guide customers in the best use of new technology. By considering how their marketing, operational and coding processes can be updated, Siemens helps customers optimize their return on investment in the purchase of new medical technology. Siemens SOMATOM® Definition, the world's first dual source CT system, is helping to improve imaging workflow by eliminating the need for beta blockers and the associated loss of time waiting for those pharmaceuticals to take effect. This enables medical practices to fit these patients right into the regular CT workflow.

### **Tell us about Siemens' approach to dual source CT.**

Dual source CT was conceived because the pursuit of more slices beyond 64 currently does not offer a significantly improved diagnostic benefit. The first step in developing this technology was taken several years ago with the introduction of the compact STRATON® X-ray tube. The STRATON is the key to the system and is one of the reasons no other manufacturer has been able to bring this technology to market. This made it possible to create a sys-

tem that cuts image acquisition time and radiation dosage in half while doubling the power of the scanner, opening the door to the future of dual-energy scanning.

### **What is dual source CT able to do for doctors and patients beyond 64-slice CT?**

Compared to 64-slice technology, dual source CT is so much faster that it can image any heart without beta blockers, regardless of heart rate, irregular heart-beat or arrhythmia. As a result of the system's speed, the radiation dosage to the patient is reduced by as much as half in cardiac imaging – a huge benefit for the patient. With the added power of two X-ray sources and increased accessibility thanks to its large gantry opening, the SOMATOM Definition can be a perfect solution for scanning almost any patient, regardless of size, in the acute care setting. In terms of tissue differentiation and analysis, we are only beginning to scratch the surface of what might be possible with dual-energy scanning.

### **What do you see in the future of CT?**

That question is better directed to our customers. Dual source CT and the SOMATOM Definition are the direct result of feedback from customers through Siemens' Medical Advisory Boards and various focus groups. Most of the top CT researchers and educators in the country, including 11 of the top 15 teaching hospitals, have selected Siemens because we are an industry leader in the development and introduction of innovative technologies. These customers, clinicians and administrators define the needs that Siemens addresses. Our philosophy is to integrate cutting edge imaging technology into daily clinical practice, helping to provide the highest level of patient care. We will continue to forge new advances that address specific customer challenges and set the trend in medical imaging.

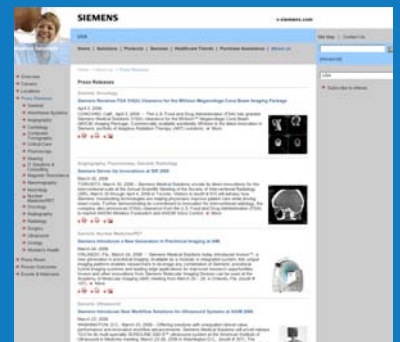
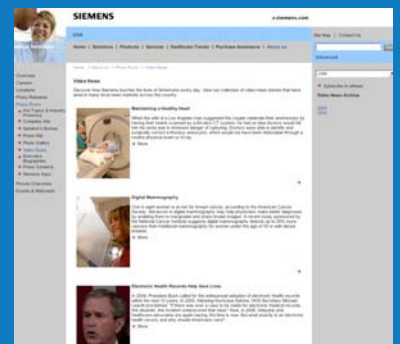
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