

## Press Release

### **Esaote signs an important agreement with the health structures of Villa Maria Group, in order to computerize the cardiology departments of the Group**

Esaote, leading company in the field of diagnostic imaging, signed an important agreement with Villa Maria Group, an holding operating in health sector through a network of highly multi-specialized hospitals and outpatients clinics with day surgeries, in order to computerize the cardiology departments of the Group.

The project will take 5 years and consists in creating a multi-departmental integrated information system, which will give the opportunity to manage data, workflows, findings and images of cardiologic and vascular cath-labs and of echocardiography and cardiac surgery departments.

The system developed by Esaote for Villa Maria Group is the newly-conceived CIS/PACS software called Estensa. It will be available in eight clinics of Villa Maria Group (Turin, Palermo, Florence, Lecce, Bari, Reggio Emilia, Rapallo, Cotignola), in order to grant a complete data centralization as well as workflows standardization of about 44.000 medical services per year. This system will gradually be available also in the other structures of Villa Maria Group, with the aim of creating an important scientific referenced set of data, based on a common database, useful for all the cardiovascular pathologies and fully complying with law requirements concerning complete traceability, availability and reproducibility of digital medical files.

The cooperation agreement between Esaote and the Villa Maria Group was strongly wanted by both partners, in order to create a tailored solution, meeting the requirements of the Villa Maria Group and of its patients themselves.

Prof. Luigi Tavazzi, Scientific Director of the Villa Maria Group is very satisfied and affirms: *“This project will allow us to constantly monitor the quality level of health assistance, its geographical distribution and relevant needs. Furthermore it will allow us to grant a top quality assistance to our patients and to optimize human resources within the Group organization.*

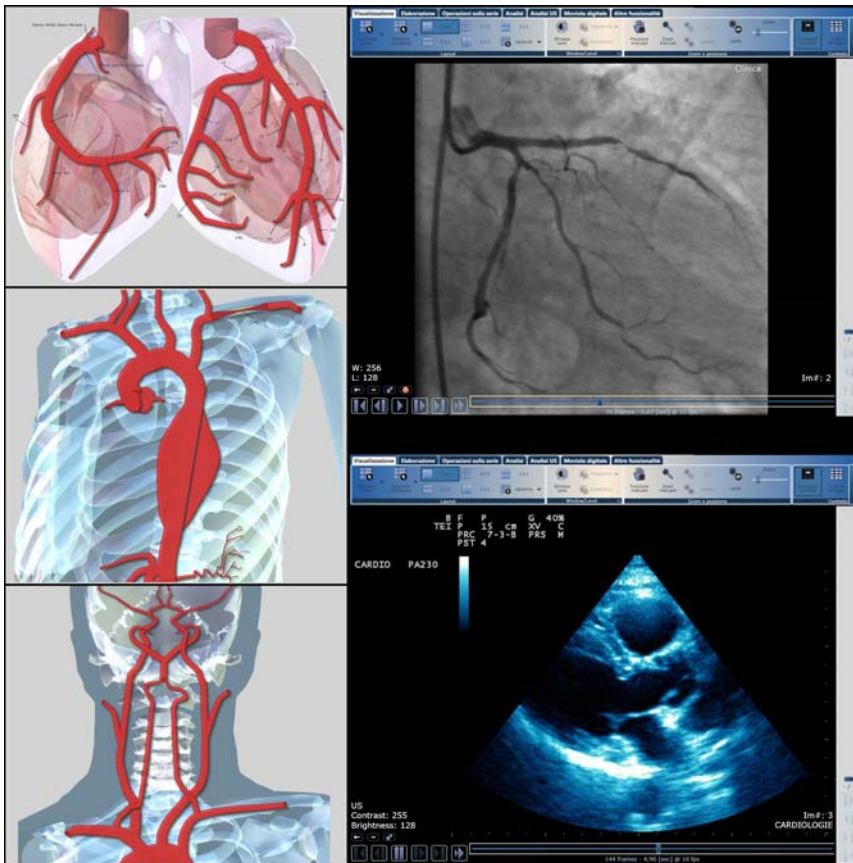
Ing. Franco Fontana, Director of EbitAet - Esaote business unit devoted to information technology in healthcare - says *“Our software Estensa was developed for fully managing all the activities of the cardiology departments: just one single system that can collect and distribute data and clinical images in a digital format, thus making the daily work of physicians easier and increasing the clinical and scientific potential”. The project was studied together with the Villa Maria Group, due to their huge activity, their peculiar wide geographical enterprise network and the necessity to share information within this network: this is why our system is highly innovative and we feel it will become a model for many other structures.*

The **Villa Maria Group** is an holding that operates in the Health, Spa and Wellbeing and Research areas, in the biomedical industry and in the planning and production of medical equipment and services for organizations and companies. Its core business is the network of highly multi-specialized hospitals and outpatients clinics with day surgeries: structures and professional abilities that are present in numerous Italian regions and extend also in France and Albania. The long tradition inherited has carried the Group to credit itself as partner of the public National Health Service and as excellence centre for the treatment of cardiovascular pathologies, orthopaedics, brain surgery, vascular and endovascular surgery, combining diagnostic and surgical techniques that are progressively less invasive with more and more innovative technologies.

The **Esaote Group** is leader in the sector of biomedical equipment (in particular, ultrasound, dedicated magnetic resonance and software to manage the diagnostic process). With 310 million euro consolidated sales in 2009 (+5% in comparison to 2008) today Esaote gives work to about 1350 employees, 20% of which employed in the R&D activities. Esaote is present with its industrial and research units in Italy (Genoa, Florence, Naples) in the Netherlands (Maastricht), in France (Paris), and in China (Shenzhen). Esaote is internationally recognized to be one of the “Top Ten” world’s leading diagnostic imaging companies. In these last few weeks Esaote won “Confindustria Awards for Excellence Andrea Pininfarina 2010 – Best Company in Innovation”.

Information concerning Esaote and its products are available on the Internet site at the address <http://www.esaote.com>





**Esaote's Estensa software for Cardiology Departments' data and image management.**