

ESAOTE BRINGS LEADING TAVR SOFTWARE TO USA AND CANADA

Dedicated sales team created to bring 3mensio Structural Heart software to North American physicians.

INDIANAPOLIS, February 4, 2014 – To better address the needs of physicians who treat patients with valvular heart disease, Esaote North America is establishing a new sales force to bring industry-leading 3mensio Structural HeartTM software directly to leading Cardiologists and Radiologists for state-of-the art cardiovascular planning solutions.

INTERVENTIONAL VALVE PROCEDURES

According to the American Heart Association, over 8% of patients 65 years of age or older have valvular heart disease¹. Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) and other interventional procedures have the potential to significantly improve the quality of life, especially for patients at high risk of open-heart surgery.

Planning for these complex interventional procedures requires advanced visualization and measurement software to help physicians determine the best course of action for their patients. The 3mensio Structural Heart software solution provides physicians a comprehensive, easy-to-use set of planning tools to help assess patient anatomy and plan appropriate treatment approaches.

NOW AVAILABLE DIRECTLY TO PHYSICIANS

The 3mensio software is already used in major ongoing clinical trials in North America, as well as by medical research institutes and major medical device and equipment vendors. Now, 3mensio Structural Heart is available directly to TAVR centers and physicians across the USA and Canada through Esaote North America.

"Considering the potential for TAVR and other Structural Heart interventions to improve the lives of patients, we examined how we can best serve the cardiovascular centers in the USA and Canada," said Boudewijn Verstraelen, Managing Director of Pie Medical Imaging (PMI), manufacturer of the 3mensio solution. "In Esaote North America, we found a partner with the cardiovascular expertise and reputation to provide our proven software solutions to leading healthcare providers throughout North America."

"Healthcare providers continually strive to provide the best, most cost-effective care to their patients and we're pleased to be able to help them integrate 3mensio Structural Heart into their treatment planning process," said Gordon Parhar, General Manager of Esaote North America. "PMI has already established excellent relationships with early adopters of TAVR worldwide and we look forward extending those relationships to leading physicians across North America."

About Pie Medical Imaging BV

Pie Medical Imaging BV has over 30 years of experience in cardiovascular analysis software and is well known for its CAASTM and 3mensioTM product lines. Pie Medical Imaging is based in Maastricht, the Netherlands. Both Pie Medical Imaging and 3mensio Medical Imaging are part of the IT section of the Esaote group. For more information on Esaote, visit <u>www.esaote.com</u>. For information on CAAS and 3mensio analysis software solutions visit <u>www.piemedicalimaging.com</u>

¹ "Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics – 2014 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association", *Circulation*, 2014;129:e248; December 18, 2013. <u>http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/129/3/e28</u>

About Esaote North America, Inc.

Esaote North America, headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, is a leading provider of multi-disciplinary ultrasound and musculoskeletal MRI systems. Established in 1979, Esaote North America is part of Esaote S.p.A., a global leader in the research, production and marketing of diagnostic medical equipment. Esaote is among the largest manufacturers of ultrasound systems worldwide. For more information, visit www.esaoteusa.com.

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