



PRESS RELEASE

CONNECTIONS4HEALTH CHOOSES ESAOTE O-SCAN MRI UNIT

- Compactness of **Esaote's O-Scan** MRI ideal for smaller clinics offering scanning of extremities
- O-Scan's openness removes patient anxiety of claustrophobia and loud noise

3rd June 2013 [LONDON] [Connections4Health](#), a Dorset-based private healthcare company offering MRI diagnostic support has chosen [Esaote's O-Scan](#) machine to enable fast diagnosis for patients in NHS primary care, sports clubs, and the private sector, becoming the first provider in the South of England to use O-Scan. The **O-Scan's** compact technology and simple user interface provide radiologists working alongside operators such as Connections4Health with instant access to excellent quality and images via secure software.

These qualities appealed to Dr Mufeed Ni'Man, a GP with an interest in orthopaedics, who set up Connections4Health with his business partner, Christopher Hughes, eighteen months ago. Dr Ni'Man explains: *"We chose Esaote's O-Scan because it scored the highest in terms of its combination of cost, flexibility, portability and image quality, compared to the other machines we researched. We purchased it on the condition that the radiologists we work with would endorse its use. Radiologists are happy to receive images using O-Scan, especially with the new software built in, because the image quality is particularly good."*

Esaote's O-Scan is a space-saving, easy-to-install and easy-to-use scanner which is custom designed for physicians to scan a patient *in situ*. Its interface and protocols are custom designed for MRI imaging of the body's extremities to help speed up and simplify the examination procedure. Captured images can be quickly and easily shared with specialists (radiologists) as required. The product also features a fully adjustable chair system for patient comfort and flexibility of scanning, and represents a 'green' option energy-wise, costing 90% less to run than whole-body MRI units. Dr Ni'man continues, *"The cost and design of the O-Scan worked well for us with our relatively small clinic size. For the patients, the O-Scan experience is far less stressful than a conventional MRI, and we've had great feedback from those who feared 'being put in a very loud tube'. The quiet aspect means we can talk to them throughout the scan, and many have been so relaxed, they've actually fallen asleep!"*

Christopher Hughes explains, *“Connections4Health is situated in one of the top 1% of deprived areas in England, so this is an area under pressure. Every saving we can create in terms of time and money helps. We see ourselves as solution-providers because early diagnosis can reduce waiting times, shorten waiting lists for secondary care, and prevent acute conditions from becoming chronic. Plus we can help cut unplanned A&E admissions, as well as the cost of analgesia and other medication required whilst patients wait for diagnosis and treatment. Nobody else is offering this in the South of England, yet.”*

The Dorset-based firm has a contract with a local NHS Trust, and attracts private patients via the website www.connections4health.co.uk. Connections4Health also provides support for Bournemouth Football Club and Bournemouth Rugby Club for sports injuries, pre sign-on assessments and sports rehabilitation. Christopher Hughes explains, *“I play rugby, and have had several MRI scans in the past few years. Sometimes I had to wait twelve weeks, but we can offer scans in 48 hours, helping to reduce the amount of time patients have to take off work.”*

Cor van der Flier, Esaote’s UK managing director points out, *“The O-Scan does more in less space. The innovative design integrates a complete MRI system, including RF shielding, in one unique structure, minimising the total space needed for installation. O-Scan can be installed in virtually any office or practice with ease.”* As the NHS reshapes and reorganises, it is expected that demand for compact MRI systems will increase in the UK - as it has in continental Europe.

Esaote’s O-Scan key features:

O-Scan comes with all network, archiving and documentation features to work either stand alone or as part of an integrated environment. It has an integrated DVD archive and retrieve software package, printer facility and patient CD package. It is also DICOM compliant and offers smart solutions for connectivity and tele-radiology:

- DICOM image transfer to any PACS or Workstation
- DICOM worklist capabilities allowing the system to be connected to a centralised registration system
- E-MRI Viewer: an Esaote software-only PC program which transforms a normal PC into a DICOM Viewer

System features:

- Maintenance-free open permanent magnet
- No RF Shielding cage needed
- Very compact, installation space of 9 m² required
- Low Power Consumption: only 1 Kw in normal 220/110V power outlet
- Ergonomic design for maximum patient comfort (no claustrophobia)
- Complete set of dedicated optimized DPA coils

- All imaging sequences used in MSK settings
- Full set of pre-defined sequences and protocols
- User defined sequences and customised examination protocols
- Multi planar scout
- Windows based user interface
- Extensive image viewing, analysis and elaboration tools
- Sophisticated storage functionality particularly useful for systems connected to PACS network
- Full DICOM connectivity

ENDS

Media enquiries: Please contact Rachel Cunningham at ROAD Communications - rachelg@roadcommunications.co.uk Tel: ++ 44(0)208 995 5832

Photographs: Please see those attached to this email

About Esaote:

Esaote is one of the world's leading manufacturers of medical diagnostic imaging systems. Esaote is a European based manufacturer of ultrasound technology, and acknowledged as a world leader in musculoskeletal MRI systems. 20% of Esaote's 1,350 employees are exclusively focused on research and development at the company's R&D facilities in Genoa (I), Florence (I) and Maastricht (NL), and enjoy the co-operation with worldwide scientific and clinical research centres.

Information about the Esaote Group and its products is available at www.esaote.com



ROAD Communications – Leading specialists in Health, Medical and Consumer PR

3rd Floor, Voysey House, Barley Mow Passage, London W4 4PH

Tel: 020 8995 5832 **www:** roadcommunications.co.uk