

Press Release October 23, 2000

Linköping, Sweden

Sectra's PACS workstation receives top ranking in scientific evaluation of commercial PACS workstations

The Swedish IT and medical technology company Sectra's PACS workstation for digital x-rays outclassed its competition in a scientific evaluation performed by the Department of Diagnostic Radiology, at Hannover University Medical School, Germany. Sectra was awarded a top ranking in all of the reviewed areas.

The result of the article "PACS workstation 2000: Evaluation, Usability and Performance" was presented at the European PACS conference "EuroPACS" held in Austria. Overall average rating:

1. Sectra	4.0
2. ImageDevices (Cedara)	3.3
3. GE	3.2
4. Siemens	3.0
5. Agfa	2.9
6. Tiani	2.7

"We focus on the complete workflow process when developing our PACS products", says Anders Brodin, Product Manager at Sectra Imtec AB. "Sectra has gained a lot of experience since we delivered our first film-free radiology department in 1994. A key to success has been that since the very start of teleradiology systems in 1989 we have worked in close cooperation with the end users to develop PACS and workstations with one main goal in mind: to increase the efficiency of the entire health-care process. The Hannover study is confirmation that our development philosophy works and that we have now taken the lead in delivering professional PACS. A fact that is also reflected in a rapidly increasing order volume over the past 12 months."

Twelve radiologists participated in the evaluation of workstations from major international vendors. During the course of a week, they evaluated five different areas: General performance, Prior studies and reports, Cross-sectional imaging, Conventional imaging and Preparing and performing a clinical presentation. All workstations were loaded with identical data sets.

"This is a clear recognition of success in our vision and task to deliver the world's most effective tools for diagnostic imaging," says Staffan Bergström, Marketing Manager at Sectra Imtec AB. "Since we're a relatively small company in relation to our competitors, we can never accept to be as good as competition. We must always strive to be far superior – in all areas! This recognition marks another important step towards proving that we really are the best choice a radiologist can make when choosing PACS."

Sectra is one of today's major PACS providers with more than 200 PACS installations worldwide. The Swedish based company operates through partners in most of the world, but delivers directly to end customers in Northern Europe. The core business is to deliver top-of-the-line high-availability, robust enterprise PACS for 24/7 operation. In Sweden, which is currently the country with the largest penetration of PACS in the world, Sectra holds a dominant market leadership with more than 60% of all film free installations. The company has its largest number of installed systems in Sweden and the US (through partners), but has also an installed base in Germany, Norway, Finland, UK, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands and the Far East.



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Sectra's operations

Sectra has its roots in Linköping Technical University and is one of Sweden's fastest growing high-tech companies in the IT area. Since the mid-1980s, Sectra has successfully conducted development and sales of high-technology medical IT and telecommunications products. Today, the business includes products in medical imaging systems, secure communication systems and wireless information systems.

Sectra's medical image business is conducted in Sectra Imtec AB, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sectra AB. Internationally, Sectra PACS is marketed and sold through different partners.

Business is conducted in five countries with a total of 170 employees. Sales for the fiscal year May 1999–April 2000 reached SEK 192 million. Since March 1999, Sectra's shares have been quoted on the O list of the OM Stockholm Exchange.

About the article

The article "PACS workstation 2000: Evaluation, Usability and Performance" was presented by Dr Niels Bazak at the EuroPACS conference in Graz, Austria.

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The article is available in the EuroPACS proceedings: ISBN 3-85403-144-0, and can be ordered from www.europacs.org.

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