
Siemens Launches Wireless Ultrasound in the UK



The UK launch of the ACUSON Freestyle™ wireless ultrasound system featuring wireless transducers from Siemens Healthcare recently took place at the British Medical Ultrasound Society (BMUS) Annual Scientific Meeting and Exhibition. Delegates were able to explore the new system, as well as view live demonstrations of other products in the ACUSON ultrasound family including the P300™ and the X700™. Delegates noted the ACUSON Freestyle's clear imaging quality and portability, and were excited by its potential applications across a wide number of clinical environments.

Sharing their first reactions to the ACUSON Freestyle, delegates at BMUS 2012 were overwhelmingly positive about the new technology: "I think it's going to have a significant impact on reducing weight-related and musculoskeletal injuries," stated Claire Footitt, Sonographer at University Hospital of South Manchester. "It can be used portably and it frees up a lot more space in the ultrasound rooms for emergency trolleys or patient beds."

Dr. Paul Allen, Radiology Clinical Director at NHS Lothian felt the wireless ultrasound system had great application in intensive care environments where traditional systems can prove inconvenient and cumbersome. "The big advantage for me will be with intensive care patients," he stated. "Being able to have the probe free from the machine will make it a lot more flexible in its use and being able to control the main functions from the probe will enable you to be independent from the main monitor."

The ACUSON Freestyle features wireless transducers with an ergonomic interface and a range of up to three metres, enabling remote control and operation. Three different types of wireless transducers have been developed for the system, covering a range of general imaging, vascular, and high-frequency applications such as musculoskeletal and nerve imaging. The system has a 38cm, high-resolution LED display, plus the system console can be mounted easily on a lightweight cart and also operates on battery power for added flexibility and mobility.

"The ACUSON Freestyle is an exciting addition to the Siemens ultrasound portfolio," states Bernadette Leonard, UK Business Manager, Ultrasound and Echocardiography Products at Siemens Healthcare. "The delegate reaction to this innovative new wireless transducer system has been phenomenal, and Siemens is proud to be the first company in the world to bring this much-anticipated technology to the market."

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