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ACMI Launches All-Digital Flexible Endoscope

All-digital endoscope offers 7x better resolution, simplicity of use and lower total cost of ownership versus traditional fiber optic endoscopes.

Southborough, Massachusetts – ACMI Corporation, a global market leader in endoscopy, today announced that it has launched the all-digital Invisio™ Flexible CystoNephroscope (ICN). Benefits inherent in the new ICN include seven times better resolution, simplicity of use and lower total cost of ownership versus traditional fiber optic endoscopes.

Instead of fiber optic image bundles, large eyepieces, snap-on cameras and high intensity light sources, as found in conventional endoscopes, ACMI's ICN employs a proprietary ultra-miniature digital video sensor at the tip of the endoscope and built-in LEDs for illumination. As such, ACMI's all-digital designs allow for better visualization, fewer components, higher durability and easy plug-and-play connectivity, all features beneficial to ACMI's nurses and physician customers.

"ACMI is excited to build on our leadership position in all-digital endoscopy with the launch of the ICN," said Herald Chen, CEO of ACMI Corporation. "Moreover, we are aggressively expanding our proprietary visualization, illumination and digital signal processing (DSP) software capabilities across our broad range of endoscopic devices. These innovations and improvements allow our customers to create a new standard of care while also improving ease of use and cost of ownership, both in the O.R. and in the doctor's office."

How the ICN Works and CByond Acquisition

The ICN employs a small CMOS imaging sensor placed directly at the tip of the endoscope that captures full-motion video images in digital format. Illumination of the surgical site is provided by white light LEDs that are built into the endoscope. This illumination technology eliminates the need for a separate high-intensity light source and related illumination cables commonly used today. The digital signal from the CMOS sensor is processed by advanced DSP software that automates many of the critical functions associated with a traditional video system.

ACMI's digital endoscopy technology is being developed by the ACMI's engineers in the U.S. and by engineers at ACMI's subsidiary in Neshar, Israel (CByond, Ltd.), which ACMI acquired in August 2004.

"Endoscopy is evolving into a highly advanced fusion of micro-miniature optical lens, prisms, mechanical mechanisms, distal tip video sensors, digital signal processing and LED illumination technologies," said Frank D'Amelio, Chief Technology Officer and Executive Vice President of ACMI. "Endoscopy is an extension of a physician's sight and manual tissue treatment. This very high standard demands the most advanced technology incorporated into a cost effective and easy to use system. By combining the optical and mechanical experience of ACMI's 100-year history, coupled with our new acquisition's video imaging and DSP software expertise, we are well positioned to apply our digital video endoscopy technology across the ever-expanding field of endoscopy."

ACMI Corporation

ACMI Corporation is headquartered in Southborough, Massachusetts and is a Fox Paine & Co. company. ACMI is one of the largest endoscopy companies in the United States, developing, manufacturing and selling diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopic instrumentation products and systems focused in the areas of urology, gynecology, general surgery, and other select clinical specialties. The company has 900 employees, 104 patents and sells in more than 70 countries around the world. For more information, see www.acmicorp.com.

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