

Press release

IBA selected to build a proton therapy center in Hampton, USA

Embargo until 5:40 pm (Belgian time) – March 28, 2006

Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, March 28, 2006 – IBA (Ion Beam Application S.A.: Reuters IOBAt.BR and Bloomberg IBAB.BB) announced today that, subject to financing, it has been officially selected after a very competitive process, to build a new proton therapy center at Hampton University, Virginia, USA.

Last year, the City of Hampton, Virginia donated six acres (over 24,000 M²) of land to Hampton University to construct the proton therapy center. Hampton University has obtained COPN (Certificate of Public Need) approval from the State of Virginia and is rapidly moving forward with implementation plans. The center will take between 32-36 months to complete and cost approximately \$190 million.

Hampton University has selected IBA to be the provider of the largest and most advanced proton therapy system ever purchased. The facility will have 5 treatment rooms – 4 gantries (isocentric rotational frames) and one fixed beam room—with the latest options for patient positioning and nozzle technologies. The relationship will also include a long-term service and maintenance agreement.

“By working with IBA, we are comfortable that we are working with one of the most experienced proton therapy providers in the world,” said Hampton University President William R. Harvey. “IBA’s accelerator installation will benefit all the patients that the center will treat.”

This is the fourth proton therapy center sold by IBA in the United States. The first one is located at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard University Hospital Campus, Boston, USA, and has been treating patients since November 2001. The second center is located at the Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA, for which IBA provided gantries for two treatment rooms, with the first patient having received treatment during summer 2004. And the third facility will be located at the Florida Proton Therapy Institute in Jacksonville, Florida, USA, in partnership with the University of Florida, and is scheduled to open in fall 2006.

For decades, Hampton University has been involved in cutting edge cancer research. The Hampton University Proton Therapy Institute will treat about 2,000 patients a year and will focus primarily on prostate cancer, but will also treat patients with breast, lung, eye, and pediatric cancers. “This project will bring state-of-the-art cancer treatment to Virginia,” said Harvey. “The Hampton University Proton Therapy Institute will ease human suffering and save lives.”

“Hampton University has conducted a very professional and demanding selection process. We are very pleased by this recognition of the unique benefits our company and our integrated proton therapy can bring. The fact that we are, the only proton therapy company with several centers treating patients around the world has certainly played an important role. We are now very excited by the prospects to make proton therapy available to the State of Virginia and the Mid-Atlantic States,” said Pierre Mottet, IBA’s Chief Executive Officer.

About Hampton University

Hampton University, a dynamic, progressive institution of higher education, is a co-educational, non-denominational, non-profit, comprehensive, private institution which offers the baccalaureate degree in 52 areas, the Master's degree in 21 areas and the doctoral degree in 4 areas. These programs are offered through the School of Business, the School of Liberal Arts and Education, the School of Nursing, the School of Science, the School of Engineering and Technology, the School of Journalism and Communications, the School of Pharmacy, the College of Continuing Education, and the Graduate College. It is located in southeastern Virginia and boasts one of the loveliest campuses in the nation, with a picturesque waterfront and historic buildings and landmarks.

About IBA

IBA delivers efficient, dependable solutions of a unique precision in the fields of cancer diagnosis and therapy. The company also offers sterilization and ionization solutions to improve the hygiene and safety of everyday life. IBA is listed on the pan-European stock exchange EURONEXT, is integrated into the NextEconomy market segment and belongs to BelSmall index. Site : <http://www.iba-worldwide.com>.

Contact

IBA

Paul-Emmanuel Goethals
Director, Corporate Business Development
& Investor Relations
Phone: +32 10 47 58 16
goethals@iba.be