

Press release

IBA Receives Two Grants From Walloon Regional Authority For Scientific Research

February 20, 2006

Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, February 20, 2006 – During a ceremony at its corporate headquarters in Louvain-la-Neuve, IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A.: Reuters IOBAt.BR and Bloomberg IBAB.BB) signed today two agreements with Mrs. Marie-Dominique Simonet, (Walloon Minister for Research, New Technologies and External Relations) governing the awarding of two grants to help finance its scientific research.

- The first agreement, in the amount of €5,760,000, covers the financing of Proton Therapy research.
- The second agreement, in the amount of €732,000, covers the financing of research for solutions in the field of E-Beam / X-Ray industrial accelerators used for the sterilization of medical and food products.

These grants formed the subject of a prior agreement with the Walloon government in November 2005.

The minister was welcomed by IBA founder and Chief Research Officer, Yves Jongen, during a ceremony featuring several presentations on the Proton Therapy and E-Beam / X-Ray industrial accelerator research projects. The visit also included a tour of the assembly hall of the cyclotrons and Rhodotrons.

For Proton Therapy, this grant is awarded in the scope of the third phase of the research program for the development and design of elements and devices to complement the existing Proton Therapy system, developed by IBA.

Proton Therapy is the most advanced clinical method to treat cancer by radiation. This treatment of cancerous tumors with proton beams ensures optimal dose delivery to the tumor without damaging surrounding healthy tissue.

IBA is the leader in Proton Therapy, with seven institutions in the US and in Asia that have entrusted it with the development of their Proton Therapy center. IBA is the sole company with its technology approved by regulators in the key markets such as the United States, Europe and China.

IBA has installed the following Proton Therapy centers:

- National Cancer Center, Kashiwa (Tokyo), Japan – in partnership with Sumitomo Heavy Industries – where the first patient was treated in November 1998,
- Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard University Hospital Campus, Boston, USA, treating patients since November 2001,
- WanJie Tumor Hospital, Zibo, China, where the first patient was treated in December 2004,
- Chinese-Japanese Friendship Hospital (Chang An Information), Beijing, China, contract signed in 2001 and scheduled to open in 2007-2008,
- Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA, for which IBA provided gantries (isocentric rotational frames) for two treatment rooms. The first patient was treated in summer 2004,
- National Cancer Center, Seoul, Korea, contract signed in July 2002 and scheduled to open in fall 2006,

- Florida Proton Therapy Institute, in Jacksonville, Florida, USA, in partnership with the University of Florida, contract signed in July 2004 and scheduled to open in fall 2006.

For E-Beam and X-Ray Industrial Accelerators this grant is awarded in the scope of the first research program to validate the use of X-Rays instead of Gamma Rays and the first applications that could use X-Rays. IBA is a leader in the field of X-ray and electron beam industrial accelerators, used in many industries for sterilization of medical devices, pasteurization of food, improvement of polymer materials and certain semiconductors. Currently, approximately 200 E-Beam/X-Ray systems (known as Rhodotron and Dynamitron) are in operation worldwide.

These research projects, scheduled to run until the end of 2007, represent a headcount of around 35 for the Proton Therapy project and around six for the E-beam/X-Ray project, including physicists, engineers, IT and technical specialists, mostly working from Louvain-la-Neuve.

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>.

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