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IBA launches the first FDA-cleared COMPACT Proton Therapy System at ASTRO

A perfect solution for areas with 1 to 5 million people

For immediate release – November 6th, 2006

Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, November 6, 2006 – IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A.: Reuters IOBAAt.BR and Bloomberg IBAB.BB) announced today the commercial launch of the first FDA-cleared COMPACT Proton Therapy System, unveiled at the 48th Annual Meeting of ASTRO (American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology) in Philadelphia, PA, USA.

While proton therapy, the most advanced form of clinical radiotherapy of cancer, is most efficient in large multi-room centers, the investment tag - typically well in excess of USD \$120M - has limited adoption of the technology to leading urban centers with very high population density. The new IBA offering will make proton therapy centers, including building, equipment and medical software, available at less than one-fourth of the previously needed investment. While it will not have the throughput capacity of larger centers, it will make the Proton Therapy technology accessible at lower risks to centers serving a smaller population.

At the heart of the system is the FDA-cleared Proteus 235 Cyclotron, the technology behind IBA's other nine proton therapy facilities. The cyclotron produces proton beams of up to 230 MeV (Million Electron Volts) of energy which are directed to a single gantry treatment room by radiation oncologists to destroy cancerous tumors.

"We are very happy to make proton therapy substantially more accessible to a greater number of patients through the introduction of the IBA COMPACT PT System. Now that the benefits have been established in many larger institutions, we're seeing adoption signals for the technology in a broader spectrum of the market, with a requirement for a lower initial investment." said Pierre Mottet, Chief Executive Officer of IBA.

"The scaled-down building and equipment configuration reduces the amount of capital financed. It provides greater flexibility, and our proven IBA technology and FDA clearance lower the start up and operating risks," said Pierre Mottet. "Oncology professionals should have an easier time financing an entry-level proton therapy system. Awareness of the benefits of proton therapy is increasing, and by



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making it available to patients within the local community, over time there should be less need to travel long distance to be treated.”

The new IBA COMPACT PT System is available as a stand-alone turnkey facility or integrated as an addition into an existing radiation oncology department. Building designs exist which anticipate a potential expansion in the number of treatment rooms, and the new system is upgradeable. While a larger Proton Therapy center is justified for an area with 10 million people, the new COMPACT PT System will be a perfect solution to cover geographic service areas with 1 to 5 million people.

Proton Therapy is the most advanced clinical modality for treating cancer with radiation as it causes less damage to healthy tissue and deposits the majority of the destructive energy to the cancerous cells. IBA is the undisputed world market leader in Particle Therapy, with more than 50% market share. Nine prominent institutions in the US, Asia and Europe have already contracted for Proton Therapy systems with IBA technology.

Today, IBA also announced that an ambitious expansion program of its production capacity has been launched in order to meet the ever increasing demands for Proton Therapy systems, including the new COMPACT PT concept. This expansion program will increase production surface and includes the addition of new assembly and testing vaults.

ABOUT IBA

IBA delivers 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 the BelMid index.

Website: <http://www.iba-worldwide.com>.

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ASTRO On-site Contact – Philadelphia – November 5 to 8

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IBA COMPACT PROTON THERAPY SYSTEM

