

IBA User Meeting: joining forces to drive proton therapy forward

Over 100 participants shared future plans, past experiences and current concerns in an open atmosphere

Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium, April 07, 2015 – From 14 to 16 March, IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A., Euronext) brought together more than 100 users of its proton therapy systems at its fourth annual user meeting. Held at the radiation oncology department at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, the meeting featured three days of in-depth discussions, technical insights and ideas on how proton therapy can further advance towards its ultimate goal: to help eradicate cancer. Over 100 attendees from 30 IBA proton therapy centers from all over the world, ranging from established centers to brand new IBA customers, took advantage of this unique opportunity to interact with their peers.



Highlighting the achievements of IBA is not the sole purpose of such a user meeting: it leaves ample room to express concerns, offer suggestions for improvement, share positive as well as negative experiences and collaboratively seek solutions to overcome obstacles. IBA believes this to be the best way to maintain its lead in proton therapy advancement.

A mix of presentations and workshops kept a good balance between the technical aspects and the clinical point of view of proton therapy, with the parallel workshop formula offering every attendee the chance to pick his or her personal favorites. Day one focused on the current use of and new



approaches within the *Proteus®PLUS* and *Proteus®ONE* systems, highlighting Pencil Beam Scanning (PBS) and Cone Beam CT (CBCT). A concluding visit to Penn Medicine's Roberts Proton Therapy Center in small groups proved highly enlightening. Day two offered a clinical approach, affirming the breadth and depth of proton therapy applications and addressing the challenge of motion management. Keynote speaker Andrew Lee, Medical Director at the Texas Center for Proton Therapy, offered an innovative approach to treating prostate cancer. The meeting was topped off with a look to the future, introducing the Functional Monitoring Interface (FMI), a brand new quality assurance tool, and laying out the path to adaptive treatment.

A high level of interaction between presenters and attendees was encouraged throughout the meeting. Users brought up the question of cross-training to maintain uniform levels of knowledge and competence across the local IBA teams at all times to avoid any setbacks in case of team switches or hand-overs. Another valuable suggestion by attendees was to reserve some separate time for physicists and clinicians at the next user meeting. This would offer the chance to proceed to more in-depth discussions on different users' specific fields of interest. Attendees appreciated the opportunity to discuss issues in an open, supportive atmosphere.

In his closing notes, IBA's CEO Olivier Legrain repeated the resolution to maintain tight connections, offer first-rate service and focus on development and intensive training to move together in the right direction. Thereupon, IBA users and crew alike went home enthused and with boosted confidence to face the future together.

Jean-Marc Andral, President Strategic Marketing, Proton Therapy, at IBA, said: "For IBA, our customers' feedback is incredibly valuable. The user meeting offers the ultimate opportunity to set different viewpoints side by side, confront and align the practical knowledge of us as manufacturers and physicians and clinicians as users, who each experience proton therapy in a different way. We notice how, year by year, spirits rise as the community is growing, and we gathered loads of input to enhance the modality in itself and improve the user experience for IBA customers."

-----END-----

About Proton Therapy

Proton Therapy is considered the most advanced and targeted cancer treatment due to its superior dose distribution and fewer side effects. Protons deposit the majority of their effective energy within a precisely controlled range, directly within the tumor, sparing healthy surrounding tissue. Higher doses can be delivered to the tumor without increasing the risk of side effects and long-term complications, thereby improving patient outcomes and quality of life. www.iba-protontherapy.com Today, more than half of proton therapy clinical facilities worldwide are IBA systems. This includes 18 proton therapy centers in operation and 15 additional centers under development. Over 40,000 patients have been treated on IBA equipment – more than on all major competitive installations combined.



About IBA

IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A.) is a global medical technology company focused on bringing integrated and innovative solutions for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. The Company is the worldwide technology leader in the field of proton therapy, the most advanced form of radiation therapy available today. IBA's proton therapy solutions are flexible and adaptable, allowing customers to choose from universal full scale proton therapy centers as well as compact, single room systems. In addition, IBA also has a radiation dosimetry business and develops particle accelerators for the medical world and industry.

Headquartered in Belgium and employing about 1100 people worldwide, IBA has installed systems across the world, from Europe and the US and to the emerging markets. IBA is listed on the pan-European stock exchange EURONEXT. (IBA: Reuters IBAB.BR and Bloomberg IBAB.BB) and more information can be found at: www.iba-worldwide.com

For further information please contact:

IBA

Olivier de Sadeleer
Marketing Manager PT
+32 10 475 890
investorrelations@iba-group.com