

5DT <Fifth Dimension Technologies>

MEDIA RELEASE

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5DT releases a Virtual Reality Esophago-Gastro-Duodeno [EGD] Scope Training Simulator

5DT <Fifth Dimension Technologies>, a world pioneer in Virtual Reality [VR] peripherals and training systems, today released a Virtual Reality Esophago-Gastro-Duodeno [EGD] Scope Training Simulator. This product, **5DT VR MED Upper GI**, is a training simulator for upper gastrointestinal endoscopic procedures.

The simulator offers several benefits and applications. Trainee endoscopists may use it for safe virtual reality practice before reality-based training. It is an ideal **Teaching tool** for the development and practice of **navigational and procedural skills**. It can also be used as a **Research and Development [R&D] tool** for evaluation of new procedures and/or instruments. Apart from Teaching and R&D, it may also find application as a **Patient briefing tool** to obtain better informed consent.

"We have been working on this system for more than 3 years, and we believe it is now ready for the market. This product could do for gastroenterology what flight simulators did for the aviation industry." said Paul Olckers, President and CEO of 5DT.

One of the most important features of the simulator is that it uses a real gastroscope to ensure maximum realism. The gastroscope is instrumented to interface it with the computer that hosts the virtual reality program and a computer graphics model of the esophagus, stomach and duodenum. This is combined with realistic imagery, a realistic transparent force-feedback model, a biopsy training module and an ERCP training module. A pathology creation and placement tool allows the instructor to create realistic pathologies and place these at any point within the esophagus, stomach or duodenum. A professor can now "create" a virtual patient and present it to a trainee for examination. A computer program automatically evaluates the progress of the trainee.

"We are already approaching lifelike realism, and this is only the beginning." said Claude Marais, Chief Developer of Virtual Reality Medical Systems at 5DT.

The virtual reality simulator is optimal for the development of navigational and procedural skills, but lacks in terms of diagnostic skills development. To fill this gap, 5DT developed a **Multimedia Atlas of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy**. This product, **5DT MM MED Upper GI and Colon**, is a huge catalogued database of images, matched with case studies, general classifications and diagnoses. With more than 300 images, a learn mode, evaluation (test) mode, images of endoscopes, images of endo-therapy devices, diagrams of endoscopic procedures as well as videos, this product fulfills the need for a diagnostic trainer and a reference tool. This product was developed in partnership with Dr. David Martin, MD, of Atlanta South Gastroenterology PC, who supplied the atlas images, medical data and classifications.

5DT is a world leader in the field of Virtual Reality. Based in Silicon Valley, 5DT develops, produces and distributes virtual reality hardware and software systems. 5DT also develops turnkey projects for clients.

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Virtual Reality is a technology that needs to be experienced. We would therefore like to invite you to Booth 832 to experience this exciting technology yourself.