

Ideas which make every load portable

Hygiene, safety and stability make high demands on mounting systems for medical equipment and monitors. Patient monitors, flat screens and/or keyboards need to be easily adjustable, but be stable in every desired position. CIM med GmbH specialises in developing appropriate solutions for any requirement in the healthcare sector.



environments is regulated. Up to now cables were led outside the support arm or fastened externally with additional cable clips. The danger of cutting the connecting leads to the digital circulation system is considerably lower with the CIM system.

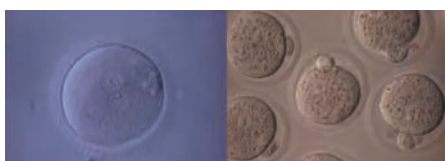
All mounting solutions hold a 6-fold safety factor of the indicated maximum weight. Only a 4-fold safety factor is required by law. A slow-flowing gas pressure spring is used which prevents the arm from shooting up quickly when the device or monitor is removed. This not only ensures safe operation of all variable height arms, but also allows the joints to be moved smoothly. CIM med GmbH offers a three year warranty.

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Enhanced specimen image contrast

Nikon has announced the availability of a new light microscopy contrast method – NAMC (Nikon Advanced Modulation Contrast). Offering enhanced image sharpness and definition, NAMC can be used in all applications that traditionally use Hoffman Modulation Contrast and is particularly important in live cell applications, such as IVF, for the observation of specimens in plastic dishes. NAMC is currently available for Nikon's Ti series inverted microscopes.

In the same way as Hoffman Modulation Contrast, NAMC is used to enhance contrast in both stained and unstained specimens. The NAMC system uses new Plan Fluor objectives and a full 360-degree rotating modulator with a convenient 'stop' mechanism. NAMC accessories include



condensers, turrets and modules and five specifically designed NAMC objectives, including Super Plan Fluor ELWD 20x and 40x, and Achromat 10x, LWD 20x and 40x.

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Siemens and the Stroke Association launch Stroke for Stroke 2010

Siemens plc and The Stroke Association have launched the third annual Stroke for Stroke campaign, in a bid to raise awareness of stroke and to highlight the benefits of a healthy diet and regular exercise in its prevention. The campaign will run between 25th and 31st January 2010 and will challenge members of the public to row 10km (or more), helping to raise funds.



Siemens plc and The Stroke Association have launched the third annual Stroke for Stroke campaign. (Left to right): Ric Egington, GB Rower; Alex Partridge, GB Rower; and Rachel Christie, Miss England.

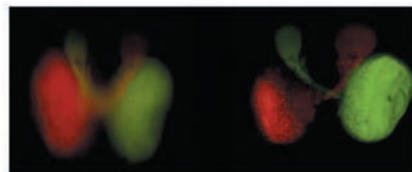
The campaign is now in its third year and has raised over £70,000 to date by encouraging members of the public to complete a sponsored 10km row. In addition to raising funds, the campaign aims to highlight that anybody, irrespective of age, can suffer from a stroke and that a healthy lifestyle, including a healthy diet

and regular exercise, can help to significantly reduce the risks.

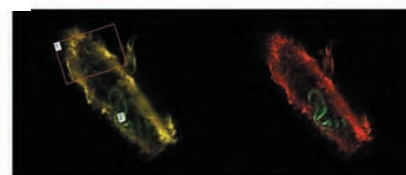
The timing of the event at the end of January means that anyone looking to get back in shape after the festive season will still have time to warm up and shift those Christmas pounds before taking on the 10km rowing challenge.

The Stroke for Stroke campaign has teamed up with Nuffield Health to offer free access to their nationwide network of Fitness & Wellbeing Centres for everyone taking part. The campaign is open to everyone across the UK by visiting www.strokeforstroke.co.uk or calling 020 7566 1503.

Live cell confocal imaging on a large scale



Wide Field AZ-C1 image
Zebra fish eyes in vivo, double labelled with GFP and mCherry, Courtesy of Marine Biology Laboratory, USA



Drosophila Pupa before and after spectral un-mixing of auto-fluorescence. Courtesy of Ms Aude Porcher, Research Unit UMR218, Curie Institute, Paris

Combining the groundbreaking AZ100 Multizoom and advanced CI confocal microscope, Nikon has created the ultimate imaging platform for developmental biology, cell biology, stem cell and tissue research. For the first time, researchers can view large specimens in confocal mode enabling the capture of more information than ever before. Designed for macro imaging, the AZ-CI can not only capture fields of view of larger than 1cm, but also permits deeper confocal imaging than conventional microscopes thanks to its large working distance objectives. Whole organisms can be monitored and documented over time (for example, embryos) offering a wealth of continuous information on development or the organism's response to experimental variables.

Observations ranging from macro imaging of a whole organism to micro imaging of a single cell can be achieved with just one lens. Up to three separate objective lenses can be attached, offering a large optical zoom range to easily achieve high magnifications using stepwise or continuous zoom mode. The addition of a motorised stage further expands imaging possibilities by allowing image capture in multiple fields of view.

Offering exceptional flexibility, the CI confocal system is expandable from easy-to-use personal point scanning systems to spectral point scanning systems which will separate closely associated fluorophores and auto fluorescence. The innovative AZ-CI also offers many other features such as: an ergonomic tilting eyepiece tube, up to seven laser lines, fibre-coupled optics, modular system, telecentric zoom system, epi-illumination light path separated from the imaging path and is future-proofed to offer CLEM and other techniques.

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www.nikoninstruments.eu

SteREO Discovery stereomicroscopes acquire single-channel capability

The Carl Zeiss SteREO Discovery range of stereomicroscopes can now be transformed into a single-channel zoom microscope at the touch of a button with a coded, three-position nosepiece and motorised Y intermediate tube.

On the SteREO Discovery.V20, a continuously variable magnification range of up to 233:1 provides users with high quality, 3D images, convenient binocular observation at maximum resolution, and parallax-free documentation over the entire magnification range. Fast and reliable zooming into object details with a structure width of up to 0.5

micrometers is possible from low-power magnifications with a field diameter of up to 11 millimeters.

The new Parfocality Manager ensures the microscope image always remains exactly in focus even after a change of objective. Furthermore, beam delivery of the overall system is automatically adjusted on the nosepiece after the change between stereo observation and parallax-free, single-channel vertical observation. This guarantees permanent binocular observation in both 3D and 2D.

For more information E.micro@zeiss.co.uk



More flexible and faster FRET experiments

Cell and development biologists can now use the sophisticated functions of the Zeiss AxioVision software, such as the enhancement of fluorescence signals and the suppression of image noise, to support their FRET investigations. The new features are found in the physiology module of the AxioVision 4.7 microscopy software and make FRET experiments easier and simpler.

The FRET software is used to determine the energy transfer portion between two adjacent protein molecules through fluorescence energy transfer (FRET), measure the distance between adjacent protein molecules below the microscope resolution and obtain quantitative temporal and spatial information about the bonding and interaction between proteins, lipids, enzymes, DNA and RNA in vivo. It is ideally matched to the motorised Axio Imager or Cell Observer microscope systems, although it can be used with manual fluorescence microscopes.



The software offers numerous additions to existing and new methods of FRET measurement by using different corrective techniques or acceptor bleaching. Users can define their own formulas for the tasks to be performed or use pre-programmed FRET formulas. Furthermore, it is possible to modify existing FRET formulas and easily create new evaluation techniques via the formula field.

AxioVision enables the wide range of microscope accessories and software functions to be used for processing. For instance, up to 140

frames per second are available with the AxioCam HS and the dual camera module more than doubles the speed of capture. In addition, all required time series images (donor, acceptor and FRET) can be captured using the physiology module.

For more information E.Micro@zeiss.co.uk



SonoSite ultrasound systems chosen for cutting edge anaesthesia

Anaesthetists from Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust are using SonoSite's S-Nerve™ and MicroMaxx® point-of-care ultrasound systems to perform pioneering regional nerve blocks that are transforming the way orthopaedic surgery is managed. Continuous nerve block infusions can provide up to 80 hours of pain relief, eliminating the need for opioids and allowing patients to go home the same day as their surgery. Reg Edward, consultant anaesthetist at the Trust, explained: "We can move a substantial number of cases from inpatients to day surgery by using continuous nerve block infusions. The ongoing pain relief provided by this technique makes patients extremely comfortable, without the side effects of many

pain-relieving drugs, and so they don't need to stay in hospital. This is obviously preferable for patients, as well as offering large cost benefits to the Trust."

"We are one of the first Trusts in the UK to adopt this strategy extensively, using SonoSite systems to guide all our nerve blocks. The good image resolution and portability of the systems make them easy to move between wards and theatres. We also run courses in ultrasound guided nerve blocks, and the system is an excellent tool for teaching purposes."

For information on SonoSite courses contact education@sonosite.com

Study shows Azilect® can slow the clinical progression of people with PD

The ADAGIO study recently showed that earlier treatment with Azilect® (rasagiline 1mg once daily) can slow the clinical progression of people with Parkinson's disease (PD). Patients newly diagnosed with PD who were given rasagiline 1mg had sustained clinical benefits at 18 months compared with patients in whom treatment was delayed for 9 months.

ADAGIO is the first major study to assess the effects of earlier treatment on the progression of PD using a rigorous "delayed start" design. This study design allows researchers to differentiate between the normal symptomatic effects of a treatment and any underlying effects on the rate of clinical progression.

Professor David Burn, Professor in Movement Disorder Neurology & Honorary Consultant, Newcastle University, and ADAGIO principal investigator in the UK, said, "The results of ADAGIO are promising. The data show that earlier treatment of PD may slow patients' clinical progression. These data also suggest there may be some benefit for patients if rasagiline treatment is started soon after diagnosis. Longer term follow up will be useful to assess whether this benefit can be maintained"

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