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Surgical Theater and NordicNeuroLab Announce Partnership to Deliver next generation Virtual Reality & Diffusion Tensor Imaging Technology to Neurosurgeons and Patients

Mayfield Village, OH – September 23, 2016 – <u>Surgical Theater, LLC</u>, the market leader in virtual reality (VR) based healthcare services, announced today it has partnered with NordicNeuroLab to offer the Norway-based company's nordicBrainEx diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) processing application as part of Surgical Theater's Precision VR[™] enterprise-wide medical visualization platform. The addition of NordicNeuroLab technology will allow Surgical Theater to further expand the detail and immersion into relevant anatomy, functional structures and delicate tissues needed in planning and navigating surgery.

On exhibit at the Congress of Neurological Surgeons meeting on Monday, September 26 to Wednesday, September 28 in San Diego, Calif., Surgical Theater will unveil at Booth #715 how nordicBrainEx's comprehensive functional MRI neuro imaging software integrates with the company's integrated product portfolio powered by Precision VR. Working together, the two entities deliver novel, comprehensive and immersive patient-specific reconstructions that integrate with existing neurosurgical tools and technologies utilized in most hospitals today.

"Partnering with NordicNeuroLab was a natural next step for Surgical Theater," said Moty Avisar, CEO and Co-Founder of Surgical Theater. "Our Precision VR platform and nordicBrainEx complement each other while bringing vital imaging capabilities and valuable datapoints immediately to neurosurgeons in the clinic and operating room. This immersive view has become essential for surgical planning as well as a powerful tool for patient engagement."

Surgical Theater combines leading-edge fighter jet flight simulation technology with the patient's own medical imaging studies, such as MRI and CT, to create virtual and augmented reality reconstructions of the patient's exact anatomy and pathology. The result is the company's Precision VR[™] enterprise-wide medical visualization platform providing patient-specific surgical planning and education experiences for medical professionals, with VR-empowered patient engagement capabilities.

Precision VR surgeons can don VR headsets to virtually fly through their patient's brain or body as they plan their surgical approach. This immersive view gives the surgeon advanced situational awareness, precise, patient-specific surgical plans and increased surgical navigational capabilities. With the incorporation of the intuitive nordicBrainEx application, Surgical Theater also will be able to process DTI and MRI perfusion scans allowing Precision VR clinicians to perform additional evaluations of healthy brain structures, eloquent areas, and the targeted pathological tissues all on one system.

MRI provides exceptional visualization of soft tissues, while CT provides the structural and bony anatomy that together allow for precise reconstructions of the patient's brain or body in virtual reality. Post processed DTI scans map the white matter pathways, or tracts, in the brain between the functional centers, which is extremely powerful to visualize when planning a surgical approach to the abnormality. MRI perfusion measures vascularity and blood volume in the tissue or abnormality, which helps surgeons better define the normal versus abnormal structures.

"Transitioning from a 2D image on a flat screen to the 360 degree, immersive Precision VR perspective is groundbreaking for surgeons," said Robert Louis, M.D., neurosurgeon and Director of Hoag's Skull Base and Pituitary Tumor Program. "This powerful technology is changing how we prepare our patients and perform surgery by being able to "fly-through" the actual surgical plan before we even make an incision. Seamlessly integrating nordicBrainEx's DTI capabilities just further enhances the neurological visualization and decision processes which can have a dramatic effect on increasing patient safety and patient care."

Much like Surgical Theater's platform of products, nordicBrainEx is compatible and capable of analyzing data from all major MRI vendors. The processed data and imaging can be incorporated into patient-specific, VR reconstructions and saved into comprehensive reports that can be shared with patients, exported to existing neuro-navigation systems and utilized for rehearsal purposes or in collaborative and peer review environments.

"Like X-rays, CAT scans and MRI, DTI is quickly becoming an essential aspect in surgical planning," said Fredrik Isdal, NeuroNordicLab's Chief Executive Officer. "nordicBrainEx is designed to equip surgeons with seamless and immediate illustrations of functional tracts within the brain while minimizing the probability of error or variability in the quality of the results. With Surgical Theater, we found an ally in delivering integrated imaging solutions that were once out of reach to all but major research institutions."

About Surgical Theater

Surgical Theater is committed to providing virtual reality based healthcare services that bring enterprise-wide value to its partners. Surgical Theater integrates cuttingedge fighter jet flight simulation skill sets to redefine medical imaging and visualization capabilities that empower both patients and physicians throughout the treatment continuum. Surgical Theater's innovative imaging platform combines & enhances multiple imaging modalities to create a comprehensive, virtual reconstruction for various levels of interaction and immersion facilitating a virtual tour inside the patients' own anatomy. Find out more at <u>www.SurgicalTheater.net</u> and on LinkedIn at <u>https://www.linkedin.com/company/surgical-theater</u> **or** Facebook at <u>https://www.facebook.com/SurgicalTheater</u>.

About NordicNeuroLab

With more than 15 years of experience, NordicNeuroLab (NNL) provides products and solutions that define the field of functional MR imaging (fMRI). We understand the growing need for reliable and innovative tools in this growing field. As a result, we closely collaborate with research and clinical teams from both academic and medical centers, MR system manufacturers, and third party vendors to develop and manufacture hardware and software solutions that meet the needs of very experienced centers while developing training programs to make fMRI easy to adopt for more novice users. From state of the art post-processing and visualization software for BOLD, Diffusion/DTI, and Perfusion/DCE imaging to fMRI hardware for audio and visual stimulation, eye tracking, and patient response collection, NNL's products are used around the world by researchers and clinicians alike. Ultimately, we are dedicated to bringing the most advanced neuro-imaging tools to market while making functional MRI programs easy to implement. Find out more about NordicNeuroLab at <u>www.nordicneurolab.com/</u> and on LinkedIn at: https://www.linkedin.com/company/nordicneurolab-as?trk=biz-companies-cym or Facebook at: www.facebook.com/NordicNeuroLab.