Preliminary announcement

The 22th International Conference of EuroPACS will take place in Trieste, Italy. On behalf of the Organizing Committee it is our great pleasure to heartily welcome you to the conference which will be held on September 16-18, 2004.

Trieste is a very active city in the North-East of Italy, traditionally linked to the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Now that we are on the verge of a significant enlargement of the European Union, the choice of Trieste as the venue for EuroPACS 2004 seems the natural one. Moreover, in Trieste a PACS project was started already at the end of the '80s and a wealth of experience has been gathered both from the Clinical and the Research & Development points of view.

The conference will be organized in collaboration with MIR (Management in Radiology); the EuroPACS “track” will concentrate on the following areas:

**PACS in Intranet/Extranet environments**
- Purchasing and planning strategies
- Internet technologies in image distribution and display
- Intranet/Extranet-based integration
- Evaluation and economical aspects
- Workflow and work practice
- Changing roles of health care professionals

**Image processing**
- 3D image visualisation and multimodality integration
- Computer aided diagnosis
- Image guided therapies
- Virtual reality

**Integrating images with hospital environments**
- Multimedia Electronic Patient Records (EPR)
- Radiological and other medical images as a part of EPR
- Standards (DICOM, HL7, XML, CorbaMED)
- Clinical Information systems (CIS)
- HIS - RIS - PACS - CIS integration
- Integrating Health Enterprise (IHE)

**Teleradiology, Telemedicine-Telehealth**
- Multi-institutional regional PACS
- Virtual hospitals and health systems
- Local and regional networking

**Security, Privacy & Ethics**
- Security & privacy issues
- AAA (Access, Authentication & Authorization) integrated solutions
- Infoethics

**Organization, Management & Health Technology Assessment**
- Hospital multi-PACS organization & management
- Regional multi-PACS planning & organization
- Transnational integration of PACS systems: planning & organization
- PACS deployment in the revision of Health Systems in transitional countries
- Technological, economical, clinical & quality assessment of PACS and multi-PACS systems
- European and World Health Telematics & Telemedicine Observatories

**E-learning in Radiology & Medical Sciences**
- PACS systems as tools for distant education in radiology & Medical Sciences
- PACS systems as tools for education in image & data management in medicine
- Distant education to the use & management of PACS systems

The current trends will be discussed with invited lectures as well as submitted papers and posters. There will be excellent opportunities for discussions with other professionals.

The visit to the local PACS installation will be virtual, thanks to PACS and videoconferencing remote connections to the hospitals. Virtual visits to the PACS installations of Trieste and of some other hospitals of Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia and of neighbour Central-Eastern European Countries are planned to be arranged for the Conference, together with experiments of PACS/RIS/HIS and EPR interconnections.

Trieste is a beautiful city, so after the conference there will be the opportunity to visit its artistic monuments as well as the natural beauties of the region.

Trieste is also a *Science & Technology City*, well known as *The Trieste System*. So, alternatively, many opportunities will be offered to visit and contact its R&D national and international centers, working on biomedical technologies and other fields.

We warmly welcome you to Trieste

Paolo Inchingolo and Roberto Pozzi Mucelli, Presidents of the Conference

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