PHILIPS VISIQ ULTRASOUND

Taking ultrasound wherever care takes place

High-performance, mobile ultrasound system that provides high-quality images for quick and reliable diagnostic decision making

Imagine seeing a high quality image of your unborn baby, whether you are having a check-up at your family doctor’s practice or in a rural African clinic hundreds of kilometers from the nearest hospital. Philips VISIQ makes that possible. This transducer-plus-tablet system delivers quality like cart-based systems. And it’s an ultra-mobile, easy-to-use system that enables high-quality diagnostic ultrasound images wherever care takes place.

What is it?
VISIQ is a transducer-plus-tablet ultrasound system that delivers the image quality of a cart-based system. Ultra-mobile and easy-to-use, it allows clinicians to perform quality diagnostic obstetric, gynecological and abdominal scans anywhere, from hospital labor rooms to remote, rural medical locations.

What is innovative about it?

- Ultra-mobile: taking advantage of advances in miniaturization, we were able to fit the components of a standard ultrasound system into an ultrasound transducer that connects to a standard tablet through a USB connector, so it is small enough to be taken wherever care is needed. VISIQ performs two-and-a-half hours of continuous scanning on one battery charge, while built-in Wi-Fi enables standardized DICOM (Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine) data transfer.

"From small clinics to community medicine programs, care workers now have access to ultrasound in the field to provide pre-natal scans to expectant mothers in remote areas who wouldn’t otherwise have access to this type of innovative technology.” A. Krishna Kumar, Vice Chairman & MD, Philips India

- Ultra-simple: a multi-touch user interface, familiar touchscreen gesture control, and advanced image optimization make it easy for the user to perform ultrasound scans, take measurements and share results.

"The way it works is also quite simple, and we could easily train people to use it. This simple machine allows us to take immediate decisions, so the patient and the doctor will be happy because everything is happening so quickly.” Dr. Shashikala Bhat, Ob/Gyn at the TMA Pai Hospital in Udupi, India

- Ultra performance: delivers image quality like cart-based systems; incorporates color flow and Doppler plus clinically-proven image optimization technologies such as SonoCT, XRES, AutoSCAN, and Tissue Harmonic Imaging.

"The system has all of the features that a Maternal-Fetal Medicine specialist or a General Obstetrician would require in order to carry out day-to-day ultrasound activities.” Dr. Michael Ruma, Maternal-Fetal Medicine specialist at Perinatal Associates of New Mexico, USA

What is the benefit of this innovation to ‘you’?
While ultrasound devices come in many shapes and forms, tradeoffs exist between mobility, image quality, or ease-of-use. VISIQ’s unique combination of mobility, user-friendly design and cart-
equivalent image quality enables clinicians to perform ultrasound examinations across a variety of clinical settings, even in poorly resourced semi-urban and rural areas. Prospective parents can be assured about their unborn baby’s progress with regular checkups that enable timely detection of critical conditions, and potentially life-saving interventions. Finally, clinicians as well as family doctors at small outpatient clinics can perform scans themselves, speeding up the diagnosis process and possible treatments.

How did we do it?
Philips went out and spoke to healthcare professionals to see what issues they faced relating to ultrasound systems. Clinicians highlighted mobility and ease of use as important issues both in and out of traditional hospital settings. These two factors led Philips to investigate the development of an affordable, mobile ultrasound device for a global market, allowing a diverse range of clinical users to deliver high-quality images. A dedicated global, cross-functional Philips team took on this challenge, conducting extensive research. Over 400 customers worldwide provided feedback. During development, five generations of mockups were tested extensively with customers in the US, Uganda, India, China, Germany, Kenya, and Indonesia. The result is a device that miniaturizes the components of a standard ultrasound system into an ergonomically designed, mobile system that produces high-quality ultrasound images.

Did you know?
- According to the World Health Organization, diagnostic imaging is crucial in healthcare.
- Over the past 30 years, ultrasound has become one of the most widely used diagnostic tools in modern medicine.
- Philips has integrated more than 30 years of imaging technology into an ultrasound transducer that fits comfortably in your hand.

Find out more
VISIQ – product information and videos
Press release - ‘Philips receives FDA 510(k) clearance for its innovative ultra-mobile VISIQ ultrasound system’
VISIQ – Philips Africa Roadshow 2014
VIDEO - Making healthcare accessible

Contacts
Information about the innovation behind the product:
Marisa Pumares, Philips Innovation Communications
marisa.pumares@philips.com