



**News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:

Patrick Van de Wille

FD

(312) 553 6704

Patrick.vandewille@fd.com

Not-for-profit Targets HIV/Tuberculosis Co-Epidemic and Black Lung with Remote X-ray Screening Solution

Self-contained, remote-operated X-ray concept – a milestone in the screening process for diseases ravaging developing countries – unveiled at RSNA Conference in Chicago

Chicago – November 29, 2009 – The World Health Imaging, Telemedicine and Informatics Alliance (WHITIA) today unveiled Remi-d, a new product concept that is intended to provide remote-operated X-ray capabilities for use in screening across areas of the developing world experiencing the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Tuberculosis (TB) co-epidemic, high incidences of Black Lung disease, or outbreaks of other infectious respiratory diseases. Remi-d is a remote-controlled, self-contained, digital medical X-ray device intended to meet the imaging needs of resource-limited areas such as sub-Saharan Africa, South and Central America and Southeast Asia, where radiologists and technologists are in short supply.

According to the World Health Organization, two-thirds of the world's population is without access to basic X-ray services – a key component of primary health care delivery. Remi-d is intended to provide advanced capabilities including:

- **Automated patient experience** via a computer interface that allows patients to self-manage the multi-lingual capable registration process and retrieve results.
- **Teleradiography** through which a remote X-ray technologist can position patients and operate the X-ray equipment.
- **Avatar/Patient Interaction** providing a digital representation of the remote technologist in the booth to guide the patient through the X-ray process.
- **Teleradiology** that sends Remi-d's images to remote radiologists for interpretation and diagnosis.

WHITIA partnered with Merge Healthcare and SEDECAL to develop Remi-d with the shared goal of deploying the systems worldwide and providing millions of people with the opportunity to receive life-saving health screenings.

“When Remi-d's development has been completed and the device has been approved, we hope to make a significant difference in the screening of diseases worldwide,” said Ivy Walker, Chief Executive Officer of WHITIA. “With the support of partners such as Merge Healthcare and others, WHITIA is well-positioned to continue Remi-d's development and to provide support to sustain the systems when they are ready to be deployed. With ongoing partner and solution development, we believe Remi-d, if approved, could be a leader in remote medical imaging.”

“We are extremely pleased to work with WHITIA on this important concept for better global access to diagnostic imaging,” said Justin Dearborn, Chief Executive Officer of Merge Healthcare. “Over the course of our partnership, we have seen many of the human resource and technical barriers to imaging access experienced by developing communities, and Remi-d is intended to specifically address these very

issues. We are proud of the role our technology plays with this new and potentially game changing concept.”

The WHITIA effort is backed by a group of globally recognized business and healthcare leaders including:

- Newton N. Minow, Chairman of WHITIA, Senior Counsel at Sidley Austin LLP; former Chair of the Federal Communications Commission and of The RAND Corporation; trustee emeritus of the Mayo Clinic
- Michael W. Ferro, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Merrick Ventures, LLC
- Max Downham, Executive Director of International College of Surgeons
- Matthew R. Glucksberg, Professor and Chair of Northwestern University Biomedical Engineering Department
- **David Kelso, Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering at Northwestern’s McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Director of the Center for Innovative Global Health Technologies**

WHITIA will offer live demonstrations of the Remi-d prototype in the Merge Healthcare booth (No. 5619, Hall A) at the 95th Annual Scientific Assembly and Annual Meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) in Chicago, Ill. Nov. 29-Dec. 3. Walker will also present an overview of the Remi-d concept at several times during the conference. For more information, visit www.whitia.org.

About WHITIA

The World Health Imaging, Telemedicine & Informatics Alliance (WHITIA) is working to improve the health status and quality of health care received by people living in resource-limited areas worldwide by providing communities with access to low-cost, digital imaging and telemedicine solutions; medical professionals who can remotely assist with diagnosis and the technology to facilitate that interaction; and the ability to track health information that can be used to monitor public health trends, resource utilization and improve health care delivery. WHITIA does this by building and leveraging relationships with key stakeholders such as local health authorities, global non-governmental organizations (NGOs), philanthropic organizations, academic institutions, civil society and the health care technology industry in order to collaborate on the development, deployment and sustaining of affordable imaging and telemedicine solutions.

For more information visit: www.whitia.org.

*NOTE: Remi-d has not yet been submitted for approval to the FDA. There are significant risks and uncertainties in product research and development. Scientific and regulatory hurdles may cause the project to be discontinued or delayed or fail to reach the market. There can be no guarantee that Remi-d will receive regulatory approval, or that it will be commercially successful.

DISCLOSURE NOTICE: The information contained in this release is as of November 24, 2009. WHITIA assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this release as the result of new information of future events or development.

Information included in this news release may contain forward-looking statements, concerning, among other things, Merge’s outlook, financial projections and business strategies, all of which are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions. These forward-looking statements are identified by their use of terms such as “intend,” “plan,” “may,” “should,” “will,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “could,” “estimate,” “expect,” “continue,” “potential,” “opportunity,” “project” and similar terms. These statements are based on certain assumptions and analyses that Merge believes are appropriate under the circumstances. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should the assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may differ materially from those expected, estimated or projected. Merge cannot guarantee that it will achieve these plans, intentions or expectations.

Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and Merge undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any of them in light of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. Factors that could have a material adverse effect on operations and future prospects of Merge include, but are not limited to: market acceptance and performance of Merge's products and services; the impact of competitive products and pricing; the risks and effects of its recent securities issues; the past restatement of our financial statements; the amount of the costs, fees, expenses and charges related to the acquisition of etrials Worldwide, Inc. ("etrials"), Confirma, Inc. ("Confirma") and other non-material acquisitions; the ability of Merge Healthcare to integrate its acquisitions, such as etrials and Confirma, successfully; whether the acquisitions will result in the enhancement of value and benefits to customers and to Merge Healthcare's stockholders; general economic and business conditions; global economic growth and activity; industry conditions; and changes in laws or regulations, including but not limited to U.S. health care reform; our ability to generate sufficient cash from operations to meet future operating, financing and capital requirements, including repayment obligations with respect to our outstanding indebtedness; risks associated with our prior delays in filings with the SEC or our ability to continue to meet the listing requirements of The NASDAQ Global Market; the costs, risks and effects of various pending legal proceedings and investigations and other risk factors detailed in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These uncertainties and risks may cause our actual future results to be materially different than those expressed in our forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date the statement was made. We undertake no obligation to update such forward-looking statements or any of such risks, uncertainties and other factors, except as required by law.

###