

First Announcement – Call for Participation

“2nd International Scanner Contest (ISC)”

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Invitation

All manufacturers of slide scanners are invited to participate in the 2nd International Scanner Contest (ISC) in Berlin, under the auspices of the European Society of Pathology, German Society of Pathology, and the Berufsverband Deutscher Pathologen e.V. (German Professional Organization of Pathologists).

The 1st European Scanner Contest (ESC) was a great success for manufacturers as well as for pathologists and other users. The results have influenced the ongoing development of scanners and the understanding of image quality and evaluation procedures. This contest helps to identify and clarify the specific requirements of image acquisition and digitalization in diagnostic pathology and initiates innovative discussions between developers, vendors and users.

Formerly established and recently evaluated criteria will increase the value of the contest, which can support customers to find the appropriate scanner for their specific tasks.

Furthermore, it will serve the manufacturers as a benchmark.

Schedule & Locations

The contest consists of the following three phases:

Phase 1 – Registration to 2nd ISC

- **Schedule**

- September 15th : Call for participation, first announcement
- November 1st : Second announcement
- December 15th : Registration deadline
- January 15th : Deadline for registration fees (manufacturers)
- February 15th : Information about test and evaluation design

Phase 2: Event of 2nd ISC in Berlin

- **Venue:** Berlin Congress Center
- **Schedule** is linked to the 12th Annual Meeting of the Berufsverband Deutscher Pathologen e.V. (German Professional Organization of Pathologists) and the 96th Annual Meeting of the German Society of Pathology, May 31st – June 3rd, 2012
 - May 29th – 30th, 2012: Scanning of slides in different disciplines (see below)
 - May 31st – June 3rd, 2012: Evaluation of the virtual slides by pathologists attending the 12th meeting, preliminary evaluation and presentation of first results during a dedicated session.
- **Comment:** Scanning takes place under supervision of referees. The contest room will be open to a restricted number of staff from each participating company between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. only.

Phase 3: Presentation of results, award ceremony

- **Venue:** Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista, in Venice, Italy
- **Schedule** is linked to the 11th European Congress on Telepathology and 5th International Congress on Virtual Microscopy, on June 6th – 9th 2012

Contest Areas

The following table contains an overview of the planned domains of the 2nd International Scanner Contest:

No	Domain	Description	# slides	Criteria
1	High throughput	A: 20x	35 (H&E)	Speed, focus, particles
		B: 40x	35 (H&E)	Speed, focus, particles
2	Education	Best quality	10 (div.)	Focus, quality
3	Research, Image analysis and Quantification	Image analysis, quantification	3 TMA	Focus, quality, quantitative data
4	Fluorescence	Best quality	10	Focus, qualitative data, color
6	Technical	Mesh grids, color slides	1-3	Geometry, scanning area, color
		Noise check	-	Acoustic camera
		Power Consumption		

General rules

- Each company is invited to participate in any of the offered contests with one or more scanners.
- All glass slides are provided by the organizing committee.
- The contest room is supervised by independent referees who will be responsible for the handling of the slide series and the time measurements.
- The participants are allowed to review and comment on the evaluated results.

Next Steps

- All involved parties are welcome to propose additional evaluation procedures.
- Please, feel free to contact us with your opinion regarding our ideas or if you have any remarks, proposals or questions.
- Please confirm your participation in the 2nd International Scanner Contest at your earliest convenience via
 - Mail (scanner-contest@charite.de) or
 - via website (http://scanner-contest.charite.de/en/news/online_registration).