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Frimley, UK December 20, 2013

Spire Healthcare and Siemens at the ready on the sidelines of Wembley Stadium

Private healthcare provider Spire Healthcare recently supplied a mobile SOMATOM® Definition AS CT system from Siemens Healthcare at a high-profile football match between England and Scotland. The match took place at Wembley Stadium as part of The Football Association's 150th anniversary celebrations. The CT system provided a pivotal support role to the match, being at the ready with its high resolution imaging should it be required to quickly examine any injured players.

The friendly match, which took place in August, was the second time the mobile SOMATOM Definition AS has been placed in Wembley for an international game. Usually the system is supporting several Spire Healthcare sites across the North West and East of England., The CT was in place at Wembley Stadium to support any musculoskeletal imaging procedures that may have been required making use of its 3D orthopaedic capabilities. It also features a broad range of other CT imaging capabilities, including Colonography, neurology and cardiac imaging. The use of the mobile scanning technology has been overseen by The FA's Head of Medical Services, Dr Ian Beasley.

The system uses FAST CARE technology which rationalises workflow and ensures patients receive the right dose. It also features rapid whole body coverage at a high spatial resolution, while its wide aperture and load capacity minimises patient exclusion.

"The FA chose Spire Healthcare to place a mobile scanner in the stadium so players could obtain immediate diagnosis should they receive head or spinal injuries," states Dianne Hopkins, Head of Mobile Imaging/National Imaging Advisor at Spire Healthcare. "The system from Siemens Healthcare improves clinical efficiency and

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patient care through reduced dose and high image quality. Combined with the system's rapid image acquisition, players and the medical teams had the assurance that care can be received in the shortest space of time without needing transfer to a hospital."

"The mobile SOMATOM Definition AS, deployed by Spire, provides real-time imaging support should players be injured. Rapid care is sometimes vital as injuries can easily jeopardise an international football player's career," states Vince Golledge, Regional Sales and Corporate Business Manager at Siemens Healthcare. "The system has been in constant use by Spire since its installation last year, successfully providing an easy-to-access service across the UK."

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Picture caption: Spire Healthcare provided a mobile SOMATOM® Definition AS CT system from Siemens Healthcare at Wembley for the England vs Scotland friendly in August 2013. The system is also used at various Spire sites. (Left to right: Chris Chadwick, Hospital Director at Spire Manchester Hospital; Dianne Hopkins, Head of Mobile Imaging at Spire Healthcare; Susan Woodhouse, Imaging Manager at Spire Fylde Coast Hospital; Vince Golledge, Regional Sales and Corporate Business Manager at Siemens Healthcare.)

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