San Mateo Receives New 3D Laser-Scanning Technology

August 24, 2004

Media Invited to Experience Laser, Meet Area's First Patient Recipients,
Meet Local Practitioners Certified in the Technology

A red laser swipes over a part of your body and a three-dimensional replica, accurate to within one millimeter, instantly appears on a computer screen in front of your eyes. Sounds like a scene out of the latest science fiction movie, doesn't it? Well, it's not; it's the latest patient treatment experience right here in San Mateo.

Thanks to a newly developed motion-tracking laser scanner and 3D software called Insignia, San Mateo residents needing prosthetic and orthotic care can experience a medical advancement that is revolutionizing patient treatment.

On Thursday, August 26, media are invited to experience the new technology firsthand, see live demonstrations, meet the area's first recipients of the technology, below the knee amputee Dan Conrad, stroke patients Hannah Weinstein and Sally Heckenkemper, and meet with San Mateo's first Insignia- certified practitioners.

Thursday, August 26, 2004 9:00am - 1:00pm
Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics.
100 South Ellsworth Avenue, Suite 203
San Mateo, CA 94401
650-343-4504

*Live demonstrations of the Insignia scanning process versus the traditional plaster casting method at 10:00am and 11:00am

**MEDIA NOTE -- High resolution photographs and b-roll footage available upon request. Digital press kit available at http://www.hanger.com/insignia

What does it do? When an amputee needs a prosthetic device to replace an arm or leg, or when a patient needs an orthotic brace such as a spinal jacket or cranial helmet, a practitioner must obtain a representation of the patient's body part in order to develop a custom-fitting prosthetic or orthotic device. In the past, this has largely been done using a messy, invasive, and often inconsistent method of plaster casting. Insignia offers a faster, cleaner, and less invasive alternative. Using the laser scanner, a highly accurate three-dimensional replica can be captured within seconds. Traditional casting methods can take up to thirty minutes and require the patient to be wrapped in wet, messy plaster.

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