

Press release

Vertual collaborate with Aarhus University Hospital to develop the world's first Proton VERT training facility.

April 10, 2018

Vertual Ltd, a UK based company has announced plans to collaborate with Aarhus University Hospital to further develop Proton VERT a Proton counterpart for the highly successful Linac version of VERT (Virtual environment for radiation therapy training). The first stage of the collaboration will provide a prototype of the Proton VERT system to be installed in the brand new learning facility on the site of the Danish Centre for Particle Therapy (DCPT).

The prototype will include a fully articulated and interactive 3D model of the Varian ProBeam[®] proton therapy system that simulates the beam delivery and patient treatment and a state of the art 3D projection system as part of the Immersive Proton VERT system. Aarhus University hospital communicated the need for a Proton VERT model from the early stages of their project. The project will take place over several months to fine tune the software capabilities of Proton VERT and the collaborative discussions will result in a well-tested Proton VERT product available for general release in December 2018. Vertual acknowledges past and future assistance from Varian during the project to provide information required to model the ProBeam[®] machine.

"Vertual is delighted to be working with Aarhus University Hospital to develop the world's first Proton VERT training facility. The team at Aarhus have many years' experience with VERT and will provide invaluable feedback as we develop our next generation Proton training system. We look forward to discovering how Proton VERT can be used as part of the implementation process for Proton therapy and beyond that into use within a busy Proton facility." said James Ward, Managing Director and co-founder of Vertual Ltd.

Proton VERT will be used at the new learning centre to assist with the transition from Photons to protons for staff and will provide a valuable resource for patients and visitors.

"We have more than 10 years of experience with the VERT system at the photon radiotherapy clinic at Aarhus University Hospital in Denmark. We have used it for staff training, university teaching courses, public talks, VIP visits, and for patients who would like to see their own treatment plan. In particular, we often demonstrate the treatment plan of paediatric patients in 3D to the parents."

"In October 2018 we will start treating with proton therapy, and for us it is difficult to imagine a clinic without the possibility of using the visual power of VERT to demonstrate the treatment and to make the strange world of radiotherapy more accessible. A VERT Proton system has thus been a part of our proton therapy project from the very beginning." said Klaus Seiersen, Medical Physicist, Danish Centre for Particle Therapy, Aarhus University Hospital.

About the Danish Center for Particle Therapy

Danish Centre for Particle Therapy will be a national centre providing highly specialised radiation therapy for patients with cancer. The centre is under construction at Aarhus University Hospital and the first patients will be treated in October 2018.



In full operation, Danish Centre for Particle Therapy will have a capacity to perform approximately 30,000 treatments annually, equivalent to approximately 1,200 patients. A total number of approximately 120 full-time employees will manage patient treatment. In addition, a number of externally financed researchers, PhD students, pupils and students from all staff groups will be attached to the centre.

The centre will be 9,500 square meters. In addition to the cyclotron, there will be three treatment rooms, research facilities and facilities for patients, relatives and clinical staff. Danish Centre for Particle Therapy is established in a close collaboration between Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus University and Central Denmark Region. The equipment used at the Danish Centre for Particle Therapy is the exact same technology as the two NHS centres in London and Manchester.

About Vertual Ltd

Vertual Ltd. is the leading provider of virtual reality training systems in radiation therapy and is located in Hull, UK.

Vertual was formed in 2007 by three founders as a spin-off company from a joint research project involving Hull University and Hull and East Yorkshire hospital trust. In 2008 the company embarked on a programme to develop international markets for its products. VERT has since been adopted at over 130 centres in 26 countries.

For more information, visit <http://www.vertual.co.uk> and follow @VertualLtd on Twitter.

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