

MedTech Frontiers

Intravascular Ultrasound Imaging: A Study in Medical Technology Adoption



Date: Thursday August 5, 2010

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 pm, presentation begins at 6:45 pm

Location: Triple Ring Technologies, 39655 Eureka Drive, Newark

Speaker: Dr. Lewis (Tom) Thomas, Director of Imaging System R&D at Boston Scientific

Cost: The seminar is free of charge, but registration is required for planning purposes

On-Site registration: A limited number of on-site registrations will be available

About the Seminar:

Intravascular ultrasound (IVUS) imaging systems use transducers on catheters to image either vasculature or the heart from inside the organ being imaged. Currently these systems are used to image coronary arteries to determine if a lesion should be treated and to guide stent placement, to image peripheral arteries to guide treatment, or from within the cavities of the heart to guide interventional procedures (primarily ablation to treat some cardiac rhythm problems).

Practical IVUS systems were introduced around 1990 by (primarily) two different companies using very different technology approaches. Remarkably, through several business acquisitions these two very different solutions to the same problem have survived (but not thrived) to the present. This presentation will review the technology behind IVUS and discuss the barriers, including technological, economic, and distribution, to broader adoption of IVUS.

About the Speaker:

Tom Thomas is currently the Director of Imaging System R&D at Boston Scientific in Fremont, CA. In the past he has led the advanced technology research programs in ultrasound imaging at Siemens, Acuson, and GE. While leading teams covering all areas of imaging with ultrasound, Tom's primary expertise is in signal processing for coherent imaging systems. Tom received his Ph.D. from Washington University in St. Louis where his work focused on quantitative characterization of myocardium and composite structures with ultrasound. He serves on the Technical Program Committee for the IEEE Ultrasonics Symposium and reviews papers for the IEEE UFFC journal.

For more information and registration visit
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