



**THE QUEEN'S  
HEALTH SYSTEMS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HAMAMATSU/QUEEN'S PET IMAGING CENTER CELEBRATES  
20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

*State of the Art Scanner Helps Diagnose and Treat Heart Disease, Stroke, Epilepsy,  
Parkinson's Disease, Alzheimer's Disease and Cancer*

HONOLULU - Hamamatsu/Queen's PET Imaging Center, LLC is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The Joint Venture was established in 1997 between Photonics Management Corporation (fka Hamamatsu Photonics K.K.) and The Queen's Medical Center to serve as a center to support PET (positron emission tomography) research and the clinical care of patients in the State of Hawaii.

“With the formation of the PET Imaging Center, Queen's became the first hospital in the United States with a 32-ring detector PET scanner and one of twenty in the nation to have a PET scanner,” said Art Ushijima, President and CEO of The Queen's Health Systems. “This scanner provided higher resolution, and faster scan times than established PET scanners of that time which had sixteen rings. The PET Center today houses a 64 slice PET/computed tomography (CT) scanner, conducts research and clinical trials in order to develop and further the medical and industrial applications of the PET technology, obtains new insights into human physiology and higher brain function, and serves the medical needs of the State of Hawaii and the Pacific Region.”

“This diagnostic scanner provides physicians with detailed assessments of biochemical activity on the body that help diagnose and treat heart disease, stroke, epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease and cancer,” said Keith Kobayashi, General Manager, Business Incubator Development Center of Hamamatsu Photonics K. K. “Over the past 20 years, the business and research endeavor has changed cancer treatment for Hawai'i patients and continues to lead to new ways to diagnose and treat that disease.”

The Joint Venture actively supports research for the development of new PET tracers and cancer treatment drugs. PET as a diagnostic and imaging modality has advanced clinical care in Hawaii and PET research supported by extra-mural grants has added immeasurably to the body of clinical knowledge through peer-reviewed publications.

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Over 20 years ago, Teruo Hiruma, retired President & CEO of Hamamatsu Photonics K.K., envisioned growing world-wide adoption of PET as an innovative imaging technology. Hamamatsu Photonics is a world leader in the development and use of photo-multiplier tubes, the fundamental technology behind PET scanners. Hiruma felt it was important to develop research in the early diagnosis and treatment of illnesses such as cancer and neurological diseases where PET could play a significant role in helping clinicians and patients.

He wanted to establish a PET center in the United States and in 1994, approached The Queen's Medical Center to serve as a site for a prototype PET scanner to support PET technology research and development. Hiruma encouraged collaborative discussions between Hamamatsu Photonics' engineers and Queen's physicians and researchers to develop creative commercial applications for photonics technologies.

Today, the Company is 70% owned by The Queen's Medical Center and 30% owned by Photonics Management Corporation.

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The Queen's Health Systems (QHS) is a non-profit corporation established in 1985 to provide expanded health care capabilities to the people of Hawaii and the Pacific Basin. It is Hawaii's oldest and preeminent family of health care-related companies, and has more than 7,000 employees and more than 1,700 physicians on its Medical Staff. QHS consists of The Queen's Medical Center, The Queen's Medical Center – West O'ahu, The Queen's Health Care Centers, Queen Emma Land Company, Queen's Development Corporation, Queen's Insurance Exchange, Inc., Molokai General Hospital and North Hawaii Community Hospital, and has ownership interests in CareResource Hawaii, Hamamatsu/Queen's PET Imaging Center, Diagnostic Laboratory Services, Inc. and The Queen's Clinically Integrated Physician Network.