

## For Immediate Release



### Contact:

**PneumaCare Ltd.**

**Phone: +44 (0) 7779257636**

**Dr Gareth Roberts, CEO**

**Gareth.roberts@pneumacare.com**

**Dr Ward Hills, CTO**

**Ward.hills@pneumacare.com**

### **PNEUMACARE AWARDED MINISTRY OF DEFENCE R&D CONTRACT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF MOBILE PNEUMASCAN™**

*Cambridge, UK 05 June 2009.* PneumaCare Ltd has successfully trialled its new generation of medical monitoring devices which use light scanning technology. The PneumaScan™, a novel non-invasive lung function monitor, has been shown to have ease of use and great flexibility in clinical practice.

PneumaCare has had discussions with the UK Ministry of Defence about the potential to use a form of PneumaScan™ to monitor casualties during evacuation from the battlefield or scene of injury. 'Maintaining lung function is critically important during the evacuation and initial treatment of casualties' said Dr Richard Iles (PneumaCare Chief Medical Officer). 'Monitoring lung function on the move in either vehicles or aircraft is difficult and often requires direct observation of the casualty by the attending doctor or paramedic. When there is more than one casualty this is difficult to do' added Dr Iles.

Lung injury is now a well recognized complication of explosions and blasts. In many cases soldiers or civilians survive the initial blast and trauma but develop life threatening complications because of acute lung injury. 'Following consultations with our clinical colleagues we felt that our PneumaScan™ technology would have significant value in the difficult period when casualties are being moved from the site of injury or initial treatment to hospital (a process that can take hours from foreign theatres)' said Dr Ward Hills (CTO).

PneumaCare has now been awarded a research contract from the Ministry of Defence to explore this potential and carry out trials of a prototype mobile PneumaScan which could be fitted into ambulances or aircraft.

The contract has been won from the Centre For Defence Enterprise under the scheme run by the UK MoD to encourage the interaction between the innovative technologies developed by small high tech companies and the defence services.

'We are pleased that our team was able to win this contract' said Alan Barrell (Chairman) 'it demonstrates how SME's, University researchers and the Clinical expertise in our hospitals can be harnessed creatively to provide a new generation of devices to improve patient care. Casualty evacuation is difficult and anything which reduces the risk to casualties and improves their long term recovery has to be an exciting and positive prospect'.

'We plan to trial a prototype and assess its potential to improve the monitoring and clinical care of casualties' said Dr. Iles 'if successful this will be a significant step forward in caring for casualties. This technology may have wider applications in every day monitoring of casualties who need to be moved in ambulances'.

## Editors Notes.

### Background on PneumaCare Ltd.

PneumaCare is pioneering the development of non-invasive medical monitoring devices. PneumaCare was founded by Cambridge entrepreneurs and medical professionals to harness the networks and knowledge base in Cambridge to develop new approaches to improving medical care. PneumaCare works in partnership with Addenbrookes Hospital (Cambridge) Dept Engineering Cambridge University and Plextek Ltd (Great Chesterford). Together we are driving the development of non-invasive lung function measuring and monitoring as our first products.

For more information about PneumaCare Ltd, please visit [www.pneumacare.com](http://www.pneumacare.com).

### Background on Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Addenbrookes Hospital is, one of only five comprehensive biomedical research centres in the UK undertaking world-class research, and our partnership with Cambridge University is driving our vision to become the best biomedical research campus in Europe.

Our philosophy of care explores smarter more efficient ways of caring for patients, not just to treat them. This gives the Trust expertise, vision and diversity in a service which seeks to innovate and strives for excellence in delivering first-class healthcare.

For more information about Addenbrooke's Hospital, please visit [www.cuh.org.uk](http://www.cuh.org.uk)

### Background on Dept Engineering Cambridge University

The Department of Engineering is the largest department in Cambridge and one of the leading centres of engineering in the world. The Department's aim is to address the world's most pressing challenges with science and technology by collaboration with other disciplines, institutions, companies and entrepreneurs. The Department's teaching, research and infrastructure demonstrate the value of engineering excellence by translating intellectual achievement into practical progressive action of benefit to all.

The Signal Processing and Communications Laboratory is active in many areas, including image and 3D data processing, computer vision and computer graphics, audio and music processing, statistical methodology, life sciences data, tracking and machine learning

For more information about The Dept of Engineering. Please visit: [www.eng.cam.ac.uk](http://www.eng.cam.ac.uk)

### Background on Plextek Ltd Great Chesterford Cambridge.

Plextek Ltd. is one of the largest independent electronics design consultancies in Europe. It provides innovative design of communication systems and devices and the supply of finished products for telecoms, defence, automotive, industrial, scientific and medical markets.

Plextek provides an outsourced resource of highly experienced engineering skills to a range of organisations from start-ups to multi-national conglomerates. In addition, it also provides strategic business and technology consultancy, full product design and supply, system integration and the design and development of fully custom products and systems.

For more information about Plextek Ltd. Please visit <http://www.plextek.co.uk>

### Contacts:

Gareth Roberts [gareth.roberts@pneumacare.com](mailto:gareth.roberts@pneumacare.com) Ward Hills [ward.hills@pneumacare.com](mailto:ward.hills@pneumacare.com)