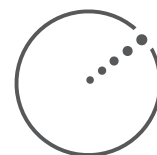


ELEKTA 2008
IN THE

COMMUNITY



ELEKTA



Welcome to the first issue of “In the Community,” in which we present just a few of the many charitable and humanitarian efforts initiated in connection with Elekta and our people.

These stories can be divided into three categories: activities organized by the Elekta company itself or its Business Units; initiatives by individuals within Elekta; and a brief section on patients – included because of the compelling and inspiring stories that reflect the human benefits of Elekta’s efforts.

Although many extraordinary efforts are described in these pages, it must be said that others deserving attention are not mentioned due to space or time constraints. Nevertheless, we hope our presentation will serve both as a record of achievement and as an inspiration to others who might want to launch similar efforts in the spirit of their exemplary colleagues and friends.

Corporate commitment

The subjects of our stories range from raising money through long-distance motorbike and automobile journeys, to sponsoring scholarships and research, to giving away books and used computers. We describe individuals within the company who’ve exceeded their

The spirit of individual giving

own and their customers’ expectations. We profile a woman who suffered from an extreme case of OCD and who, through sheer determination, single-handedly moved metaphorical mountains to receive treatment. Today, she is helping others learn about this debilitating disease. We also summarize a story from some years ago about a nation-wide effort in the former Czechoslovakia to raise money for the country’s first Leksell Gamma Knife®.

Inspiring patient endeavours

What all these stories have in common are the remarkable efforts of remarkable individuals, mostly Elekta employees, or people in some way connected to Elekta, who have been driven to push back the normal constrictions of time, money and expectation and help others in unusual and inspiring ways. Many of the individuals described here carried out their projects during their free time, which sometimes took them away from family and friends. They were not asked to do so by any one. It is this spirit of giving that this brochure seeks to celebrate.

We invite you to take a moment and read some of these stories.

Corporate commitment

Many of Elekta's charitable activities are conceived and driven by individuals. However, Elekta and its Business Units have a long tradition of supporting charitable activities through sponsorships, donations and support of various kinds.

Joining ranks with the Swedish Cancer Society

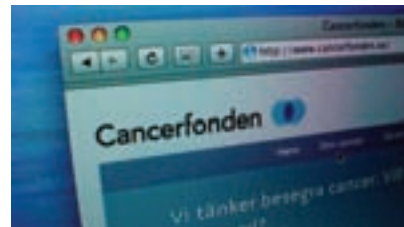
● The Swedish Cancer Society (*Cancerfonden*) is only one of many organizations Elekta supports as part of its charitable and sponsorship-related activities. But it is an important one, receiving a substantial part of Elekta's contributions (SEK 300,000) in 2007.

Closely aligned with Elekta's vision "to fight serious disease and enhance the quality of life," the Swedish Cancer Society's main task is to raise and distribute money for cancer research. The

organization is the principal financier of cancer research in Sweden and acts as a national research council.

The Swedish Cancer Society was founded in 1951 to support cancer research since government subsidies were – and remain – relatively modest. Today, the Society plays an active role in research funding, fundraising, providing information, knowledge dissemination and in shaping opinion.

In 2007, the Society's Research



Commission awarded some SEK 300 million to research projects, care development projects, cancer research positions, grants and other areas.

A stabilizing hand during a theatre's turbulent times

● Outreach programs for disadvantaged youth. Student matinees. "Artists-in-Schools" education program. Creative play shops for families and young children. And six main stage modern and classic stage productions a year.

These are among the many San Jose Repertory (SJR) Theatre cultural and outreach programs Elekta is supporting through a variety of efforts, from monetary donations and sponsorships to professional advice and time.

"Jay Hoey and Elekta (IMPAC) have been steadfast in their support of The San Jose Repertory Theatre Red Ladder Theatre, our outreach program, even during our most turbulent period," says Nick Nichols, managing director of the theatre company.

"Some companies come in and say they want to contribute only to this or that program," says Nichols. "But Elekta, in giving us money for general operating costs, in addition to education and outreach, allows us to apply the funds where they will make the greatest impact."

Elekta donated USD 25,000 to the theatre in 2007 and has contributed



more or less the same amount every year since 2002. Jay Hoey, Executive Vice President, Business Area Software Systems at Elekta, who has served as chairman of the theatre's board of trustees, helped solve financial problems so the theatre could improve its accounting systems and procedures.

The Red Ladder Theatre uses the tools of improvisational workshops to serve children and disenfranchised members of the San Jose community, explains Nichols. These include at-risk youths and children with bipolar disorders or autism, people serving jail sentences, pregnant teens, senior citizens as well as students.

"One reason for recidivism is a lack of empathy," says Nichols. "Our program helps people develop empathy, awareness and leadership skills and make them become more accessible to the society around them."

SJR's education and outreach programs have reached about 40,000 youth, senior and disabled community members since 2004, according to Nichols. The program has been replicated both nationally and internationally.

With help from sponsors like Elekta, the San Jose Repertory Theatre will continue to play a critical role in fostering the cultural life of San Jose, the largest city in the South Bay area or what is known as Silicon Valley, famous for the large number of successful high-tech businesses and venture capitalists in the area.

"We're delighted to be a part of an institution that has helped enrich San Jose and the community," concludes Hoey.

Vive la recherche!

● Improving the quality of patients' treatment by more accurately tracking the movement of organs is the focus of a research project at the Cancer Centre Léon Bérard in Lyon, France.

The seven-year research project is part of a collaboration between Elekta and five partners including: CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique); INSERM (Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale); L'Université Claude Bernard

Lyon; L'Institut National de Sciences Appliquées de Lyon; and Le Centre de Lutte Contre le Cancer Léon Bérard.

Elekta France has over three years committed SEK 920,000 to this particular project and to a project at the University of Marseille, involving research with Elekta Neuromag® and Leksell Gamma Knife®.

"We've identified specific projects where we think Elekta can have a significant contribution as well as help



us further in our efforts to improve our treatment for our own products," says Vincent Beilvert, Business Unit Manager, Elekta France.

Helping students prepare for the hospitals of tomorrow

● A state-of-the-art integrated electronic health record (EHR) system is helping a Canadian health sciences educational institute to generate exciting new opportunities for their students and faculty.

On November 17, 2007, the highly regarded Toronto's Michener Institute launched an innovative EHR platform focused on supporting the simulated clinical workflow and information needs of the inter-professional, collaborative, healthcare team.

The system was made possible, in part, with an investment in software, professional services and knowledge transfer from IMPAC Medical Systems, an Elekta Company. It represents the largest technological investment in Michener's 50-year history to date.

Digitized microscopy images

Since its introduction, the EHR has quickly gone from strength to strength. For example, Michener began importing and reviewing digitized microscopy images using IMPAC's MOSAIQ®, the recently launched EHR system. It's one of the first in Canada to do so.

"By adding microscopy images to the health record, you open up the possibility of allowing small hospitals in rural areas to send digitized slides to pathologists for viewing and analysis," commented Dr. Karim Bandali, Associate Vice President, Business Development, of Michener. "You can



receive a diagnosis in 24 hours."

Michener's solution arose as part of MOSAIQ's capability to create an integrated EHR – one that consolidates lab, radiology, radiotherapy and traditional components of a health care information system so that all the parts can be easily accessed.

Producing a better student

"We're teaching our students how to work in the hospital of the future, so we are producing a better student," said Dr. Bandali, adding that it mitigates the amount of time that clinicians must spend educating students once they've joined the healthcare workforce.

Marc Potvin, a member of the radiation therapy faculty, praised the new system. "Students will now have the opportunity to enhance their knowledge through an on-line comprehensive clinic database and practice their clinical skills by responding to realistic clinical simulations."

"With the implementation of institute-wide case studies using

MOSAIQ, students will be able to see how their specific discipline can affect the practice of other health care professionals. This awareness will lead to an adjustment of practice to meet the patient's individual needs," he added.

Looking back

In 2007, discussions between Michener and IMPAC culminated in the decision to formalize a strategic alliance calling for an investment of \$1.66 million in an integrated EHR system that represents a donation-in-kind.

"We're not just building an EHR-system," says Brad Niblett, Chief Information Officer who, with Dr. Bandali, led the project. "The relationship between The Michener Institute and IMPAC is by its very nature a true model of innovation."

"Ultimately, our graduates, and the skill-set they possess, provide a direct contribution to the patient experience and medical treatment outcomes," says Paul Gamble, President and CEO, Michener. "This investment provides a strong contribution to these ends, and ultimately our strategic intention of Best Experience, Best Education."

"We are pleased with The Michener Institute's broad deployment of our information solutions in their programs and gratified with IMPAC's contribution toward the education of radiation therapy professionals in Canada," adds Jay Hoey, head of Elekta's Software Systems Business Area.

St. Catherine's Hospice – a long-standing Elekta charity

- Located in West Sussex, UK, not far from the offices of Elekta Crawley, St. Catherine's was chosen by Elekta as a "preferred charity," raising almost SEK 200,000 over the years.

"We've had a long relationship with Elekta," explains Claire Stock, St. Catherine's spokesperson. "Elekta's charitable activity is varied, from employee fundraising through the long way around bike trip and the annual Dragon Boat Race, to individuals donating through their payroll."

"Elekta is one of our most significant corporate supporters," explains Claire, "and their support is very important to us. Companies and individuals within our catchment area are invited to participate in a wide range of fund-raising events, which also includes a 10k race and parachute jumps."

The Elekta Vikings, which have entered the Dragon Boat Festival every year since the event began in 2004, have taken first, third and fifth places in past events. Held in September, the



event this year is expected to be bigger and better and raise more money than past events, according to Carlos Sandin, organizer of the Elekta team.

A holistic approach to care, St. Catherine's is a charity dedicated to providing specialized end of life care and support to locals and their families, friends and care givers.

"We believe that alongside expert

medical and nursing care, a person's practical, emotional, social and spiritual concerns should be cared for as well," explains Claire.

St. Catherine's highly personal approach to a person's care takes time, skill and experience, plus a highly interdisciplinary approach to resolving problems. More than 70 percent of patients are cared for at home.

Helping brain tumor patients understand their disease

- Helping cancer patients become more knowledgeable about their disease can take many forms. A unique approach, in part sponsored by Elekta, was launched in early March 2008 when the Sharing Hope Patient Meeting, a conference for brain tumor patients, survivors and their families, was held in Atlanta, Georgia.

The conference provided patients with an opportunity to hear from leaders in the field as well as network with other patients and their families. They were able to choose from a wide-range of educational seminars on topics including: brain tumor basics, treatment advances, radiosurgery, behavioral and personality changes following brain surgery, the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric patients and more.

Participants took part in a mock tumor board meeting and learned about the complex discussions that take place among teams of physicians



treating brain tumors, and how treatment suggestions evolve.

As an exhibitor, Elekta provided patient information brochures and videos describing Gamma Knife® surgery, and what patients experience before, during and after surgery. Elekta also highlighted several North American patient stories, as well as showed the new patient website, LivingWithBrainMets.org.

Elekta also plans to remain actively involved with the Atlanta-based Brain Tumor Foundation for Children, serving as lead sponsor of the annual Williams Walk and Run in November. Elekta joined more than 2,000 organizations in 73 countries

in focusing attention on advancing research and treatment of brain disease during Brain Awareness Week (BAW), March 10-16, 2008.

The event was organized by the American Brain Tumor Association (ABTA), Atlanta-based Brain Tumor Foundation for Children (BTFC), and the Southeastern Brain Tumor Foundation (SBTF).

Transforming lives through technology

● Although millions of people in the developing world don't have access to computers or the Internet, organizations like Digital Links, a registered UK charity, are working hard to change that.

Through donations, Digital Links acquires, refurbishes and distributes computers to schools, hospitals, health centers, HIV-awareness centers and community projects. To support these efforts, Elekta in November 2007 decided to donate 100 used PCs and laptops to the organization.

After cleaning and testing, Elekta's equipment was deployed in the developing world, giving around 2,000 people weekly access to the digital world for the first time.

The benefits of providing these schools with computers are obvious. Students can learn the computer skills essential to finding work in the modern world and also gain access to a whole range of exciting and up-to-date learning resources.

They also provide a means to improve and streamline administrative systems and access to up-to-date information.



Careful with resources

From a company's perspective, disposing of old IT equipment is problematic and expensive, explains Simon Telfer-Smith, Elekta's VP of IT. "No one likes waste and we are really pleased to have teamed up with Digital Links," says Simon. "Recent United Nations research indicates that passing a computer on for re-use is 20 times more effective than recycling at saving energy."

"We also know that we have an environmentally sound and fully secure solution for the end of our life equipment," he adds.

About Digital Links

Digital Links was founded as a social enterprise and registered charity in 2002 to reduce the strain on the world's resources, and transform lives through technology.

The organization collects redundant computers from companies, schools and other organizations in the UK and refurbishes them for reuse. They have collected computers from over 500 UK companies and delivered over 50,000 computers to 1.5 million users in schools, hospitals and other institutions.

Ethiopian training program makes giant strides

● When an Ethiopian neurosurgical training program began in Addis Ababa in 2006, there were only three neurosurgeons for the population of 80 million. And the medical facilities required for their work were woefully inadequate.

Today, with training by neurosurgeons like Dr. Knut Gustav Wester, who is a Professor in the Department of Neurosurgery, Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen, Norway, and financial support from the University of Bergen and Elekta (SEK 68,000), the program has now grown to include three specialist candidates, with five more to be enrolled in September.

The present facilities – Addis Ababa University Hospital and the Korean Missionary Hospital – now

have equipment for conducting basic neurosurgical procedures.

Long lines and advanced cases

But the long waiting lines and extremely advanced cases are enormous challenges. After one year of training, each candidate had performed and/or assisted in more than 300 procedures each!

From December 2005 to February 2008, 578 patients have received treatment. Forty-two percent were children. Conditions treated include hydrocephalus (mostly children), intracranial tumors, degenerative spine disorders, neural tube defects and head injuries, among others.

"Not only have we made giant strides in Ethiopia in treating neurological conditions that required urgent



attention, it has helped train a new generation of Ethiopian neurosurgeons," says Dr. Wester. "It has also been an opportunity for Nordic candidates to gain some experience."

Elekta China sponsors trailblazing clinical research

● As part of a continued effort to expand the frontiers of research in radiation therapy (RT), Elekta China signed in 2003 a sponsorship agreement with Guangzhou Zhong Shan Tumor Hospital, located in southern China (north of Hong Kong).

The project, entitled “Position error due to respiratory motion and its relationship to the uncertainty of dose distribution,” is supported by the William Beaumont Hospital in Sterling Heights, Michigan, in the USA.



Several papers based on this research project have been presented at oncology meetings in China, including the National Radiation Oncology meeting, Pan-Pearl-delta Radiation Oncology

meeting (with participants from 10 provinces), Shandong Province Radiation Oncology Meeting, Sichuan Province Radiation Oncology Meeting, Hubei Radiation Oncology Meeting and Southeast regional Radiation Oncology meeting.

“This cooperation helps the hospital build up their reputation as being at the forefront of RT research while it allows Elekta to pursue continuous innovation in RT,” explains S.F. Chan, Deputy CEO, Elekta China.

Helping a Chinese hospital achieve recognition

● Elekta China is sponsoring Synergy research at the radiation therapy (RT) center at Sichuan University Huaxi Hospital, southwestern China. This allows certain resources to focus on research and preparing reports, apart from daily clinical treatment.

In the last two years, some 10 papers have been accepted and published in different medical journals and meetings, including ESTRO,

based on the Huaxi Hospital research.

Elekta has also prepared a case study on Huaxi Hospital and their treatment record with Synergy. A lot of interest about IGRT has been generated in China, resulting in the sale of seven Synergy units in 2007.

“Before our close cooperation, the RT department of Huaxi Hospital was not well-known. Today, the hospital is recognized as among the

top ten in China,” explains S.F. Chan.

“With rapid development in radiation therapy, customers are demanding better applications and clinical support. Close cooperation between suppliers and end-users becomes increasingly important. Elekta China continues to strengthen the organization in order to fulfill this customer demand. It is also one of the critical success factor for the years to come,” concludes Chan.

Japanese cancer patients given books

● Books worth SEK 18,000 have been donated to cancer patients and patients’ groups in Japan to better inform them about the disease, according to Ayumi Takada of Elekta Japan.

Edited by Dr. Keiichi Nakagawa of the Oncology Department, University of Tokyo Hospital, some 200 copies of four books have been donated.



The books consist of interviews with famous doctors about the Japanese concept of death as well as recommendations for radiation therapy.

The books were presented on October 20, 2007 to 215 people, mostly cancer patients, at the Cancer Support Symposium at the Tokyo International Forum.

Elekta’s Team X-ray riding for hearts

● In 2007, Team X-ray, Elekta’s charity bicycle team, raised more than SEK 70,000 in the British Heart Foundation’s London-to-Brighton Bike Ride, the UK’s largest. The 2008-year’s 90-strong Elekta team, joining 27,000 other riders in the 100-kilometer ride, is expected to more than double last year’s amount.

Since 1980 when BHF first became involved, more than 650,000 riders



have taken part in the event, raising more than SEK 470 million to help

fund pioneering research, patient care and vital information.

Support to professional societies

● Through a wide variety of activities, including professional meetings, educational grants and courses, outreach programs, public awareness efforts and research, organizations such as ASTRO, ESTRO, AANS, AAN, ACCC, RSNA, SNO, TJU, WIMP and others are playing an invaluable role in advancing the practice of neurosurgery and radiation oncology.

The aims of these organizations dovetail with those of Elekta, which has been an active and long-standing supporter of these and many other groups, both at the corporate level and through its Business Units.

Elekta North America, for example, sponsors a list of activities that run for several pages. Individual Elekta Business Units, however, tend to favor direct donations and/or grants to local charities or direct study grants for training at specific hospitals (e. g., in the last two years, the Italian BU has sponsored study grants in excess of SEK 600,000).

ASTRO gets unrestricted educational grants

“They have been generous in support of our continuing medical education efforts with unrestricted educational grants in support of our scientific conferences,” explains Cheryl G. Reinhardt, Corporate Relations, American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO).

Each year, Elekta spends SEK 150,000 on educational grants.

On top of that, Elekta supports the society at large with an additional SEK 330,000 in annual grants that enables ASTRO to keep membership dues to a minimum, while also underwriting public outreach programs and publications.

Furthermore, Elekta sponsors various meetings with support that ranges from SEK 210,000 to 480,000, utilized to underwrite the costs associated with accommodations and visits to exhibit halls.

Elekta has also helped support ASTRO’s efforts to raise public awareness about radiation therapy and how it is used to treat all cancer types with an amount totalling SEK 500,000 over a three-year period.

Auctioned items in Elekta’s name

Elekta’s contributions can take other forms. For example, Elekta has recently contributed money to AANS (American Association of Neurological Surgeons) to support the neurosurgery research and education foundation (NREF), through a silent auction. But that’s not all.

“Every year, corporate partners such as Elekta form alliances with the AANS through support of education, scientific research, and marketing-related programs. The AANS appreciates Elekta’s investment in the future of neurosurgery and continued excellence in all aspects of the specialty.” explained Betsy van Die, Director of Communications, AANS.

A sample of organizations Elekta supports

Elekta supports numerous other professional organizations around the world – all working towards improving the quality of care for patients:

American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS)

Scientific and educational association dedicated to advancing the specialty of neurological surgery to provide the highest quality of neurosurgical care to the public.

- Rolling Meadows, Illinois
- 7,200 members worldwide

American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO)

To advance the practice of radiation oncology by promoting excellence in patient care, providing opportunities for educational and professional development, promoting research and disseminating research results and representing radiation oncology in a rapidly evolving healthcare environment.

- Fairfax, Virginia
- More than 9,000 members

Congress of Neurological Surgeons

Dedicated to enhancing health and improve lives worldwide through the advancement of education and scientific exchange.

- Schaumburg, Illinois
- 6,306 neurosurgeons worldwide

European Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ESTRO)

Foster radiation oncology, develop standards of radiation oncology, improve standards of cancer treatment, promote international exchange of scientific information and establish relationships and cooperation with international, regional and national societies within radiation oncology.

- Brussels, Belgium
- Almost 6,000 members worldwide



The spirit of individual giving

Raising funds for people in need, running charitable organizations and doing whatever it takes to make sure a customer's equipment is functioning properly are among the examples of individual commitment described in this section.

Mongolia, here we come! Taking charity efforts in exotic directions

● Together with his brother and a friend, Guy Fielden, a 22-year-old electronic apprentice based in Crawley, England, is planning to participate in the Mongolian Charity Rally, an arduous 5,500-mile or so drive organized by volunteers at Go Help, a UK charity.

On July 5, 2008, teams will start out from the heart of London where a traditional Mongolian festival will be held, featuring a crash course in Mongolian wrestling and archery. Once on the continent, states the website, "the road is your shepherd – you can choose to take in the delights of Poland, Ukraine and Russia, or boldly point your vehicle in a southerly direction towards Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan."

Guy and his team are taking a more direct northerly route, avoiding Turkey and countries south of there. They hope to conclude the journey within three weeks due to work commitments.

Vehicle auctions for charity

All vehicles that make it to the end of the anticipated three-week drive will be auctioned and proceeds donated to a charitable foundation in Mongolia. But the vehicles have to survive a grueling pan-continental drive through many barren, inhospitable countries, crossing five mountain ranges and two deserts and still return, in decent condition.

Guy and his team purchased a used Toyota Landcruiser, which is being refurbished for the marathon drive. His brother, an engineer, and his friend, whose hobby is working on cars, seem to be the ideal team for undertaking the challenge and coping



with technical problems as they arise.

The engine is in great shape, says Guy, but some repair needs to be done on the rust spots. Travel kits must be prepared and visas acquired.

"When we get to Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, we'll auction off the Toyota and donate the money to the Child Development Protection Fund. You have to raise a minimum of GBP 500 for Save the Children," says Guy "We are also raising money for St. Catherine's Hospice in Crawley.

Elekta has pledged to make a donation to that organization if we make it."

Guy and his team are also trying to raise money from other companies in the Crawley area for St. Catherine's Hospice.

While outrunning bandits, sleeping under the stars and cajoling border guards, Guy will have plenty of time to think about the future and his plans to become a full-time service specialist for Elekta.

An unsung hero – Field Service Engineer Ron Gilbertson

● Few jobs are as unpredictable or as demanding as Elekta's field service engineers – highly trained engineers often called upon at a moment's notice, day or night, to troubleshoot Elekta's equipment on site.

Some eighty five field service engineers work from their homes throughout North America in locations that are within easy access to the bulk of their customers. In the USA, for example, Ron Gilbertson, who lives in Canton, near Boston, Massachusetts, is responsible for New England.

"I would get a call from the call center in Norcross and they might describe briefly what the problem is and who to call. It might be anything from a collimation error or beam problem, which could be any of a number of things," explains Ron.

Once the call comes in, the pressure is on. Doctors, physicists, radiologists, therapists and some 40 or so patients who are expecting treatment that day may be waiting for Ron to finish the job. You don't want to be the one delaying someone's critical treatment.

"All these eyes are on you and your adrenalin is pumping. But when you have complex issues to solve and you do it in a reasonable amount of time, it's tremendously satisfying."



A system containing many systems

Considering the complexity of Elekta's systems, Ron faces a wide range of technical challenges, ranging from the simple to the highly complex. A linear accelerator, a system that accelerates subatomic matter at the speed of light, contains many systems, each of which has the potential to fail.

"There's quite a bit of circuitry and mechanical systems in a linear accelerator. It could be the failure of a circuit board or any piece of electronic equipment," says Ron.

Repairing a system can take anywhere from one hour to several hours. In a worst-case scenario, parts may

have to be Federal Expressed, which could mean that it might not be available exactly when needed.

"Bear in mind it's a well-designed piece of equipment with no weak links. And they are constantly being improved," says Ron.

No two days are the same

"With the exception of routine scheduled maintenance, they never know where they are going on

any given day, how long they will be there or what technical and logistical challenges they may face. All they know for sure, or care about, is ending each day knowing that they did the very best they could possibly do to serve our customers and their patients," says Jonathan Love, Regional Service Manager, East.

"There is no routine and that is one of the things that makes the job so demanding and interesting," he adds. "Typically, most of them get home every night, but often times it is very late. This is one of the things that I think make them unsung heroes."

Elekta President's Award – recognizing exceptional performance

● Employees at Elekta who perform above and beyond the scope of what's expected of them are often singled out and recognized by their colleagues. It's part of the Elekta culture. Recently, with the introduction of the President's Award, Elekta has formalized this process.

Established two years ago by Tomas Puusepp, Elekta's President and CEO, the Award is intended to recognize individuals who consistently perform beyond their areas of responsibilities, display an innovative or creative approach to problem-solving, or play a significant role in attaining critical milestones.



Last year, five Elekta employees were selected as winners of the first-ever President's Award. This award is given in recognition of exemplary performance and is an annual competition in which all Elekta employees are invited to nominate their colleagues at any

time during the entire fiscal year.

The 2007 winners were: Mary Fitzpatrick, Clinical Applications Manager in Hong Kong; Christian Breton, Regional Service Manager in Canada; Johannes Morelius, Project Manager in Stockholm; Andrew Byford, Industrial Engineer in England; and Andrea Turner, Support Trainer in the USA.

"I am delighted there were so many excellent nominees and such deserving winners," says Tomas. "This confirms that Elekta has an exceptionally deep and broad range of outstanding employees. It was no easy task to whittle down so many qualified nominees to a mere five winners."

A remarkable story of nation-wide generosity

● The story about how the first Leksell Gamma Knife® was acquired for a hospital in Prague, Czechia, is quite unusual. It shows what can be achieved when a large number of people come together to focus on a single goal.

The Prague unit was acquired some years ago after a nation-wide effort to collect money from organizations, such as churches and retirement homes, as well as individuals, including executives, pensioners and laborers.

“The idea to purchase a unit for Czechoslovakia aided by a collection was evidently crazy enough to capture the public’s imagination and thus become a reality,” explained Frantisek Janouch, founder and president of the Charter 77 Foundation, and critical to the success of this unusual effort.

Astrid Lindgren paid for treatment

There were more donors who contributed to Misa’s Fund, as the collection was known, than voters who took part in elections for any of Czechoslovakian political parties, according to Dr. Janouch.

“For a whole month, congregations of Catholic churches throughout the country held collections and hundreds of schools competed to see who could collect the most for Misa’s Fund throughout the month,” he said.

The effort was triggered after the Foundation sought to raise money for an 11-year-old Czech boy, Misa, who suffered from a serious arteriovenous malformation. His doctor recommended Leksell Gamma Knife treatment, and the Karolinska Hospital in Sweden was willing to perform the operation. The cost: nearly 15 times the boy’s family annual income!

The late Astrid Lindgren, Sweden’s world-famous children’s author, sent SEK 4,280, and noted on the payment slip that she was arranging the remaining amount – a more manageable SEK 80,000! The total cost of the treatment was SEK 84,280.

The success and publicity generated by the boy’s treatment raised awareness



Above: the late wife of Václav Havel, Olga Splichalová, together with Frantisek Janouch and H.M. Queen Silvia of Sweden visit the site during the 1992 inauguration. Below: Václav Havel.

and the Foundation received requests to finance more operations.

“What I had feared most had become reality: in the eyes of the public, the Foundation became the last hope of funding for operations needed by hundreds of our fellow citizens, whom the state health service was unable to help,” said Dr. Janouch.

Thus began the search for a more general, systematic solution. Dr. Janouch paid a visit to Elekta where he was informed one unit cost more than three million dollars. “I felt like a little boy who wants to fly first class to Australia but didn’t even have enough money in his pocket even to catch a bus to the airport,” he said.

Nevertheless, he said, Elekta was sympathetic to his idea to purchase a unit and that, if the money could be raised, they would give Dr. Janouch and his group a significant discount.

Václav Havel and wife give support

Fundraising began and soon President Václav Havel’s wife agreed to support the effort, as did a number of large Czech and foreign corporations. The President himself donated DKK 500,000.

In November 1992, the Prague Leksell Gamma Knife unit was inaugurated in the presence of President



Václav Havel. “People queued for hours in front of the clinic, from morning to night, to see with their own eyes the cutting edge device they helped to purchase,” says Dr. Janouch.

With the support of the Charter 77 Foundation, the Prague Clinic offers free treatment to Ukrainian children. Until the end of 2007, some 60 children have been treated in this manner.

“The Prague Leksell Gamma Knife Clinic is among the top 259 clinics in the world in terms of operations, the scale of diagnoses treated and the results achieved,” explains Dr. Janouch.

“In some areas, the Prague unit has carried out pioneering research into new forms of treatment. This is thanks to the experienced, self-sacrificing team of doctors and radiologists operating this unique equipment.”

“I’d do it again,” says participant of a tough 2,500-mile ride for charity



● After completing a 13-day, 2,500-mile ride that took him and his traveling partner, Paul Whyte, both of Elekta UK, from Helsinki to London, via the Arctic Circle, on under-powered motorbikes, Duncan Bourne said he would “do it all again tomorrow.”

Raising charity money by hitting the road seems to be a common theme among Elekta Crawley employees (see Mongolian Charity Rally page 9).

What did Duncan and Paul learn in their travels? “We learned never to give up, even when it looks hopeless! We also learned that most people will help you if you ask,” said Duncan.

The trip was conceived over a game of dominoes and, in the spirit of many charities, was an effort to “raise money by doing something difficult,” explains Duncan. “You help others, and learn a lot about yourself at the same time.”

The pair acquired bargain-basement Honda C90 motorbikes and had them crated and shipped to Helsinki, where they visited the first of four Elekta offices.

Bike cannibalization

Right away, the bikers were challenged by mechanical problems. On the second day of their voyage, one of the two bikes had to be abandoned in Finland due to a seized engine. Then half way across Finland, Duncan crashed his bike. The pair opted to rent a car and drive back to where they’d abandoned

the first bike to salvage parts.

“We had one bike, three choices,” explains Duncan. “Give up and go home; Paul goes home and I continue; or we both continue. We chose the latter, laid all our possessions on the floor and grouped them into: must have, nice to have and not needed.”

That was only the beginning. A minor accident, an injured knee, queasy stomachs, headaches, rain, heat, fatigue, mosquito bites, a flat tire and other mechanical problems shadowed the pair throughout Europe.

After the vast lakes of Finland, the pair entered Sweden. Initially, they were unimpressed by the landscape. “The roads were basically just flanked with trees and there were no lakes to be seen, and just the odd red barn with a Swedish flag here and there.”

Forced to stop every 30 minutes

To minimize the pressure on the engine the motorcyclists were forced to stop every 30 minutes, slowing down the pace significantly. During the entire journey, they kept pushing the clock, leaving earlier and earlier in the morning to make sure they maintained their schedule.

The camping sites along the route allowed the bikers to meet others. At one campsite, “Paul saw a man put something in his mouth and asked what it was. He was told it was “snus” tobacco, which is placed under the lip.

Paul tried some – his face turned green and the tobacco burnt his gums.”

Reaching Stockholm was a major milestone for the bikers, who’d so far overcome a number of challenges.

Soon after the pair visiting the office in Linköping. At their campsite, the ground was soft and comfortable to sleep on, if a bit wet, following a heavy rain.

In Denmark, Duncan notes, “the speeds were much higher than they had been in Sweden, and the drivers much more impatient, so I decided to get off the main road and find the back-roads route around Copenhagen.”

Traffic jams were a welcome sight for the travelers because the slower speed allowed them to “sit on the motorway without any problems.”

An idyllic ride through villages

In Germany, “we rode for hours on winding roads, passing through small villages with beautiful homes. This was one of the most enjoyable parts of the whole trip, I think.”

They wanted to arrive in time for a barbecue at the Elekta office in Hamburg, which they had been looking forward to for the last three days.

Afterwards, the pair headed for Holland, still stopping every 30 minutes. “Wearing black leather and standing in the sunshine when it’s over 30° C in the shade, is not fun at all.”

“As soon as we crossed into Belgium, the scenery and roads changed. There seemed to be a roundabout every hundred yards, and, in between, there were bridges over canals.”

Through Belgium, France and, finally, the Eurotunnel at Calais, they were back on British soil. Duncan, noting that British drivers were reckless, worried the journey might turn into an anti-climax. But their reception back at Elekta settled that concern.

“It was bigger than our wildest dreams. A large crowd was gathered, filling out to the street, and we got a sense of achievement as we rolled up in front of the building. This was it, the ride was really over now.”

Laurent Leksell steps up to new challenges

● Since stepping down from his post as President and Chief Executive Officer of Elekta, Laurent Leksell has been far from idle. While remaining an Executive Director of Elekta, he has also been deeply involved in a charitable organization.

Five days after leaving his post on May 20, 2005, Larry was elected Chairman of the Stockholm City Mission (*Stockholm Stadsmision*) at the organization's annual general meeting.

Fighting poverty & homelessness

Stockholm City Mission is a non-profit organization founded in 1853 to reduce the suffering of people who are on the margins of society.

"Poverty and homelessness in Stockholm is unacceptable," says Larry. "Those of us who live and work in Stockholm have a responsibility for those in need here – in the short-term with food and shelter and

in the long-term by assisting people to return to self-supporting lives."

Fighting prostate cancer

Prior to this work, Larry had also volunteered to lead a three-month national campaign in spreading awareness and raising funds for research in improving diagnosis, testing and treatment of prostate cancer in Sweden.

The campaign's symbol, known as the St. John's mustache, is said by the organizers to portray an image that is "practical, beautiful and personal."

"Prostate cancer is the fastest growing cancer in Sweden, even surpassing breast cancer." Larry continues, "Unfortunately, prostate cancer is not discussed or as visible as it should be because a lot of men stigmatize it due to the clinical consequences of the treatment. I would like to see prostate cancer more visible



Taking the plunge for charity

● Sometimes the suffering of close ones inspire extraordinary acts. This was the case with Joanne Latimer, who works for Elekta's Marketing Communications department in Crawley.

At the age of 59, her father suffered a stroke. "Ten years on," she says, "he's still with us but sadly his condition is no better. His strength of mind amazes me so much so that I put my own fears to one side and hurled myself from a plane at 12,000 ft plus to raise money for 'The Stroke Association'."

With the support of friends, family and colleagues at Elekta, Joanne managed to raise her confidence as well as just over GBP 850 by taking the leap.

"I was told that skydiving can become addictive, which I found a little hard to believe. But having experienced it for myself, words cannot describe what a mind-blowing experience it is and how much I'm looking forward to my next flight," says Joanne. "Thanks once again to everyone who sponsored me!"



Inspiring patient endeavours

No story about Elekta's humanitarian activities would be complete without a few examples of patients who've been able to overcome the debilitation of serious disease through luck or sheer perseverance. Read about a few truly inspiring individuals.

Chinese-born NBA hopeful "blossoms" after treatment

● In November 2007, physicians at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center performed Leksell Gamma Knife® radiosurgery on a Chinese basketball player, Sun Ming Ming, to treat a pituitary tumor and restore his chances for a promising career.

The procedure, performed free of charge, was a success, and helped him refocus on his real aspiration: playing for the National Basketball Association (NBA). "He's really driven to succeed," said Rocky Manning, his host father.

Ming, a 24-year old Chinese immigrant, came to the USA in 2005 hoping to be drafted by the NBA. At 7 feet nine inches, his prospects looked good.

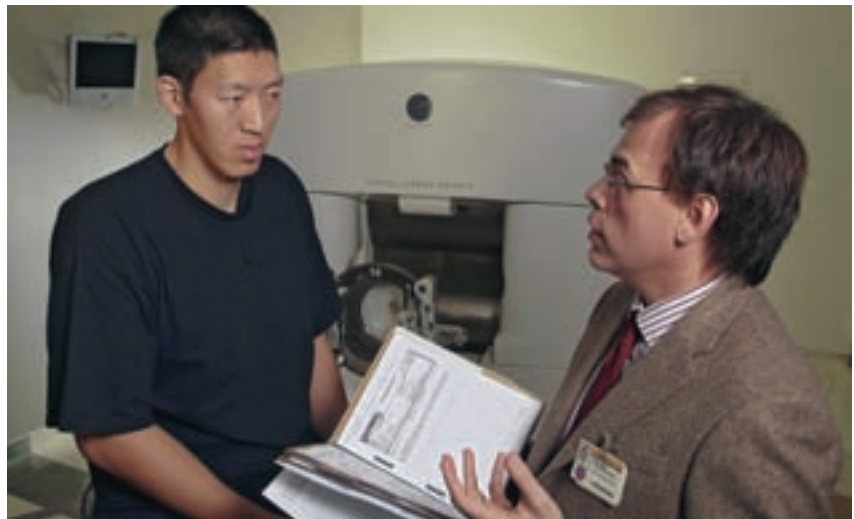
Although he was eligible for the draft, his condition affected his stamina, strength and speed. He was diagnosed with a tumor on his pituitary gland that was responsible for his extraordinary height as well as his lack of performance. The tumor caused the pituitary gland, which is located in the middle of the brain, to overproduce growth hormone.

The dangers of acromegaly

The condition is known as acromegaly, a hormonal disorder that, while responsible for his extraordinary height, could also slowly kill him.

In 2005, Sun initially underwent traditional surgery at a California hospital where physicians removed the bulk of the growth through nasal incision approach. The Gamma Knife radiosurgery removed the residual and hard-to-reach inflamed tissue, thereby improving Ming Ming's overall results.

"The challenge with a brain tumor like Sun Ming Ming's is that it requires a highly precise and proven tool to remove the residual tumor, which is very near his optic nerve," said



Dr. Volker Stieber, head of the team that took care of Sun.

Focusing on the NBA

Today, although the tumor is still secreting growth hormone, from a medical standpoint, Ming should improve in the years ahead, according to Dr. Edward Shaw, chair of the university's radiation oncology.

"Based on some research we did last summer, it may take five years for the growth hormone to drop to a normal level," said Dr. Shaw.

At the same time, Ming's personality has really "blossomed" since the procedure, according to Manning.

"Ming is doing well physically and mentally," said Manning. "He is much happier and can enjoy many things because of his increased energy level."

Manning also said his chances of playing in the NBA are very good.

"Ming works out with weights, running and playing basketball, usually 4 to 6 hours daily," says Manning. "He speaks good English and acts like a teenager when he is at home. He acted and moved like an older

man when he first came here."

Perhaps more important than his basketball career, the procedure will likely add years to his life.

"Unsuccessfully treated acromegaly doubles mortality," says Dr. Stephen Tatter, co-director of the Gamma Knife Center at Wake Forest. "In the case of a 22-year-old, this would roughly cut the median lifespan from 56 additional years to 28 additional years."

Most notably, Gamma Knife surgery will reduce the risk of Ming dying from heart disease and stroke conditions that kill many with acromegaly in their 30s and 40s.

Performs in Rush Hour 3

In 2007, Ming played a small role in the popular film Rush Hour 3 with Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker.

"He did a great job and all of the producers and staff adored him," says Manning.

"Ming knows that without Wake Forest and Elekta, the doctors, nurses and his friends, he would not be able to pursue the opportunities he always dreamed about," concludes Manning.

To the edge and back – conquering OCD with determination

● In the lives of many thousands of patients with brain tumors or brain disorders, Leksell Gamma Knife® has made a world of difference. The stories of these patients, the challenges they faced and overcame, are inspiring.

One such story is that of Gerry Radano from Westchester, New York, who for 10 years suffered from an extreme case of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), a neurological brain disease that is claimed to in some form affect 1 in 40 people, or nearly seven million Americans.

In her book, “Contaminated,” Gerry describes in harrowing detail the onset of her disease, how it turned her life upside down and then how she successfully conquered it after four hard-fought years. Until then, the price she paid was enormous. Her OCD behavior was so disruptive that she eventually lost her job as a flight attendant and her lucrative real estate business.

Worse yet, she alienated her children, husband, friends and relatives, almost to the point of losing them.

“Make it my last day!”

“Every day I woke up praying that this would be my last day,” she says. But it wasn’t to be. Instead, for 14 years, she sat on her living room couch frozen with fear and suffering from repeated panic attacks. Each day, she sprayed an entire can of disinfectant on everything she touched. She changed her clothes six to eight times, took two to three showers until the water ran cold, and washed her hands over 200 times to get rid of the germs she was convinced were contaminating her.

Desperate to find a remedy, Gerry tried every OCD medication on the market, causing her to gain weight. She tried one therapist after another, a hypnotist, and voluntarily committed herself to psychiatric hospitals for a total of 20 weeks in-patient care, eventually coming to the conclusion that she was treatment resistant.

“During that time,” she says, “my husband had no wife, my children no mother.” In fact, her husband, after

10 years of single-handedly raising the children, eventually moved out of their home.

Last straw: Leksell Gamma Knife

What saved her, she explains, was Leksell Gamma Knife® treatment offered at Butler Hospital, Rhode Island, and the team behind it. “The minute I got the telephone number from a therapist at one of the hospitals, I knew it was exactly what I needed. I had run out of options.”

“I was told I had little chance of getting treated. But I was determined and I called every week to the same treatment coordinator. Finally, she said the doctor would see me. Those were the sweetest words I’d heard.”

To be accepted as a patient, she was required to submit a detailed medical record, including the treatments and medication, and be approved by the hospital board. Contacting each hospital and therapist and collecting all her medical information was quite a task. She waited a year and a half before she was eventually approved. On November 10, 1999, she received treatment.

Gerry was also the first person in the USA to have the USD 30,000 medical costs paid for by her insurance company. “I’m a very good advocate for myself,” she explains.

It took months before the benefits of the surgery began to pay off. Studies show the benefits of the treatment take three months to a year. They also reveal that about 50 percent of patients show significant improvement, 30 percent moderate and 20 percent little or no improvement.

But Gerry was absolutely certain the surgery would work for her. In the months following the operation, she began a “take back your life” plan that combined dieting and exercise (she had gained over 100 pounds and now weighed 230 pounds, or as she puts it, “close to an 1/8 of a ton”), reeducating herself, starting a new career, doing volunteer work and building up a new social life.



She allowed carpenters and other workers into the house to renovate her home, another gesture symbolizing her victory over OCD. The panic she normally experienced when shopping or meeting people began to fade.

Graduated top 5% of her class

More importantly, she was able to put her life and her family back together. She and her husband, through marriage counseling and support groups, managed to rediscover the bonds that brought them together in the first place.

“Today, the life of our family has been completely turned around,” she writes. “Our children are thriving.”

“However, without the Gamma Knife surgery, I believe I would still be on the inimitable couch. Not a day goes by that I don’t think how blessed I am to have been the beneficiary of this scientific research and knowledge,” she writes in her book.

Eventually, she graduated in the top five percent of her class at Fordham University with a master’s degree in social work. Her goal is to make Gamma Knife available to all those who need, and she has begun traveling around the country as a mental health advocate. Her book, “Contaminated”, won a national award and her story has appeared in several print and electronic media.

Today, Gamma Knife treatment is still considered experimental for OCD and is therefore utilized only as a last resort. Consequently, the patients who are considered are those who have exhausted every other form of treatment.

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