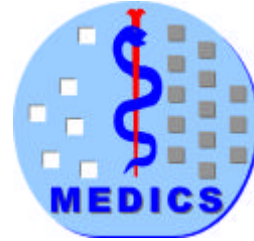


MEDICS

Access to Expertise and Technologies



MEDnews 3/2000 October 11, 2000

Welcome to the MEDnews 3/2000, this year's third electronic newsletter of MEDICS, the European Centre of Competence for Biomedical Microdevices. MEDnews is sent four times per year to a continuously growing number of friends and partners of MEDICS. The current distribution list contains more than 850 recipients.

In October 1997, MEDICS was launched in the framework of the European initiative 'Europractice'. MEDICS is hosted by the Fraunhofer Institute for Biomedical Engineering IBMT in Sulzbach (D) and by the Centro Nacional de Microelectronica CNM in Bellaterra (E). Since 1999, MEDICS has been operating as a profit centre at IBMT.

MEDnews provides you with information on services and activities related to development and application of biomedical microdevices.

--> For further details of MEDICS' services and activities, please visit:

<http://www.medics-network.com>

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--> Former issues of MEDnews can be downloaded at:

<http://www.medics-network.com/download/>

Yours sincerely

Andreas Schneider

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MEDICS Project Manager Tel: +49 (0)6897/90 71 40

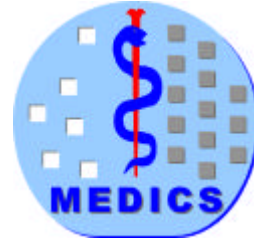
c/o Fraunhofer IBMT Fax: +49 (0)6897/90 71 49

Industriestrasse 5 <mailto:medics@medics-network.com>

D-66280 Sulzbach <http://www.medics-network.com>

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----- M E D n e w s 3/2000 - October 11, 2000 -----

Topics

1. MEDICS in Progress
2. News on MEDICS' Partners
3. Second Workshop 'Micropackaging & Interconnection'
4. Upcoming Events

1. MEDICS in Progress

MEDICS' expert opinion on 'Developments in Biomedical Devices - Regional Strategy Concepts in Saxonia (Germany)' which started in May 2000 under contract of the State government of Saxonia is nearing its final completion. The study is a follow-up of MEDICS' analysis on scientific and industrial biomedical potentials in Saxonia which was completed in December 1999.

MEDsearch, the MEDICS Biomedical Internet Portal, provides targeted access to internet information on recent developments and applications in biomedicine and current device technologies. Starting with 200 organisations in May 1999, MEDsearch now comprises more than 800 pertinent organisations. More than 1200 visitors already made use of MEDsearch in order to research 'biomedical' internet information.

More information: <http://www.medics-network.com> (click MEDsearch).

From October 1, 2000, Sven-Peter Heyn is employed with Mediport VC Management GmbH, a venture capital company based in Berlin. His responsibilities are in the field of Life Sciences and Biomedical Technologies. MEDICS is looking forward to a good co-operation with Sven-Peter Heyn in financing innovative biomedical developments.

MEDICS is now looking for a replacement of Sven-Peter Heyn. If you are interested in heading the profit centre MEDICS at Fraunhofer IBMT as an executive manager with the aim of launching an independent company, do not hesitate to contact J.-Uwe Meyer (Senior Consultant of MEDICS) for more information:

Prof. J.-Uwe Meyer, Tel: +49 (0)6894/980-151,
<mailto:meyeru@ibmt.fhg.de>.



2. News on MEDICS' Partners

MEDICS' partner Bartels Mikrotechnik GmbH will be present at MEDICA/ComPaMED from November 22 to 25, 2000 in Düsseldorf (booth: hall 4, 4F21).

More information: <http://www.messe-duesseldorf.de/de/2000/compamed/>.

Just in time for the presentation on MEDICA/ComPaMED, Bartels Mikrotechnik GmbH now also serves as a partner for the structuring of catheters. Today, due to the development towards miniaturisation and towards the integration

of various functions into catheters, it becomes more and more difficult to manufacture catheters of polymeric materials. By using its sophisticated excimer laser system, Bartels Mikrotechnik GmbH is able to:

- modify the structure of catheters (openings, slits, perforations, ...)
- integrate customer-specific sensors including all necessary cables
- provide post-process catheter manufacturing (cable stripping, opening of sensor isolation, ...)

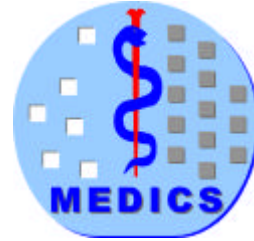
More information: <http://www.bartels-mikrotechnik.de/medica>.

3. Second Workshop 'Micropackaging & Interconnection'

On December 5, 2000, the second MEDICS workshop on 'Micropackaging and Interconnection Technologies for Innovative Biomedical Devices' will take place in Sulzbach, Germany. This year's focus will be the topic of hearing implants (cochlear implants and middle ear implants). Hearing implants represent high-end biomedical devices that typically cost about 20,000 euros

per system. Approximately 1% of a given population are potential candidates for an hearing implant.

Three of the four companies worldwide that are active in the development and manufacturing of cochlear implants will give presentations on the state-of-the-art of their products, technological challenges and trends for the future in the course of the first session. The session will be completed by a presentation of a middle ear implant company and by a presentation on 'Visions from a Clinical Point of View'. In the second session



different companies will present their newest developments in packaging & interconnection for biomedical devices. Similar to last year, the workshop will be accompanied by a small exhibition.

If you are interested in participating in the workshop and/or in participating in the exhibition, please register before November 17, 2000. The maximum number of participants is limited to 40 people.

For detailed information on the workshop, the final programme and registration form, please visit:

<http://www.medics-network.com>

4. Upcoming Events

Fraunhofer IBMT at the First Annual International IEEE-EMBS Special Topic Conference on Microtechnologies in Medicine & Biology in Lyon, October 12-14, 2000:

Presentation: 'Biomedical Microdevices for Neural Interfaces'.

More information: <http://mrel.beckman.uiuc.edu/mmb/>.

MEDICS and Fraunhofer IBMT at Nanotech 2000 in Montreux, November 28-30, 2000:

Presentation: '3D In-Vitro Tissue Biosensors for Toxicity and Therapeutical Biomonitoring'.

Poster session: 'The Significance of Biohybrid Sensor Systems in Gene-Technology, Screening Proceedings and Diagnostics: Electrical Characterisation of Microtumors by Using a Biohybrid Impedance-Monitoring System'.

Exhibition: Please visit the Europractice booth.

More information: <http://www.nanotech2000.com/>.

----- MEDnews 3/2000 - Thank you very much for your attention ----