EUHA Congress, October 15 - 17, 2014 in Hanover

New remote control and smart phone app for Siemens hearing aids

- Discreet remote control with intelligent one-button control
- Direct connection to telephones, television, computers, and music players
- Universal smart phone app for important settings

At the 59th International Congress of Hearing Aid Acousticians, EUHA, in Hanover, Germany, Siemens is presenting, for the first time, its new, wireless hearing aid interface easyTek. Apart from the functions for remote control of hearing instruments, easyTek forms the wireless interface to a wide range of modern communication and entertainment devices. It is worn on a lanyard around the neck and, if the user wishes, can be concealed under clothing. All important settings, including program changes or the receiving and terminating telephone calls, can be performed via one central smart button. Using the additional smart phone app, the user can extend the easyTek functionality even further, such as dictating the focus beam of the hearing aid microphones or checking battery status.

easyTek is the latest generation of Siemens’ streaming and remote control systems. Like its predecessors Tek and miniTek, easyTek can be connected to all Bluetooth-enabled devices such as telephones, computers, or music players directly. And for non-Bluetooth devices such as televisions or a home stereo system, easyTek also comes with an adaptor. And if necessary, easyTek can be connected to several devices simultaneously. The audio signal is streamed into the hearing aids directly and without noticeable time delay.

The central operating interface of easyTek is the large button in the middle. It is a smart button which can anticipate the user’s intent based on the situation. If, for example, a telephone connected via easyTek rings, the call is taken and ended by
pushing the button. If several devices, e.g. a television and a music player, are connected with the hearing aids, it is possible to switch backwards and forwards between the different sources by pushing the button. And if no external device is connected, the button is used to change hearing aid programs. Two additional buttons on the side of easyTek also enables volume adjustments. LEDs on the top, which are only visible to the wearer, provide visual feedback. Furthermore, thanks to the built-in microphone, easyTek can be used as a speakerphone.

easyTek is made even more powerful and intuitive with the easyTek app, which is available for both Apple and Android smart phones. The app can be used to change the programs and adjust the volume on the smart phone. Users can even dictate the focus beam of the hearing aid microphones as they wish. In addition, the app offers the possibility to check the battery status in the hearing aids, or to call up information via the devices connected by way of easyTek. Because smart phones are found everywhere nowadays, the new app cleverly disguises hearing aid adjustments as smart phone operations.

easyTek and the easyTek app work with Pure and Carat hearing devices available on the new platform binax, which Siemens is also presenting at EUHA.

The products/features (here mentioned) are not commercially available in all countries. Due to regulatory reasons their future availability cannot be guaranteed. Further details are available from the local Siemens organizations.

This press release and press pictures is available at www.siemens.com/press/pi/PR2014100021HCEN.

Contact for journalists
Erika Weigmann
Siemens AG
Healthcare
Tel.: +49 9131 308-3449; E-Mail: Erika.Weigmann@siemens.com

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of energy-efficient, resource-saving technologies, Siemens is No. 1 in offshore wind turbine construction, a leading supplier of combined cycle turbines for power generation, a leading provider of power transmission solutions and a pioneer in infrastructure solutions and automation and software solutions for industry. The company is also a leading supplier of medical imaging equipment – such as computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging systems – and a leader in laboratory diagnostics as well as clinical IT. In fiscal 2013, which ended on September 30, 2013, revenue from continuing operations totaled €75.9 billion and income from continuing operations €4.2 billion. At the end of September 2013, Siemens had around 362,000 employees worldwide on the basis of continuing operations. Further information is available on the Internet at www.siemens.com.