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This European project aims at incorporating a novel tactile and icon-based User Interface, Smart Card identification and authentication technologies, and multimedia object transfer in a commercially available videoconference platform in order to construct an innovative and easy to access PC-based video communication workplace for medical staff. The videoconference platform uses the H.320 ITU international standard, for the multimedia communication (i.e. video, audio, text, etc.).

An icon-based User Interface (called Touchpanel) was developed with the aim of ensuring comfortable control of peripheral devices and multimedia object transfer, and also the adjustment of the teleconference parameters (e.g. level of sound, focus of attention of the cameras, display of microscope images, video recorder, etc.). Object transfer enables team work on a set of digital objects (like the electronic patient record, results of the laboratory analyses, CT-images, microscope images, or X-rays images).



Videoconferencing in health care, especially for cancer diagnosis and patient treatment, has been in use since 1999 in the European region Egrensis, in Saxony/Germany and the Czech Republic. A number of 10 hospitals are working daily together in cancer diagnosis and long-term patient treatment.

The VideoCom workplace provides a comfortable "touch" access to the video conferencing facilities to the non-experienced medical staff, without the need of technician support.

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Project Consortium

