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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CARBON DIOXIDE MONITORING TECHNOLOGY DETECTS PATIENT RESPIRATORY DISTRESS

GE Medical Systems Information Technologies *Expands Capnography Capabilities to More Clinical Settings*

MILWAUKEE (May 27, 2003) – Clinicians can now detect potentially life-threatening respiratory problems and changes in patients under anesthesia and in a variety of other clinical settings with a newly developed carbon dioxide (CO_2) monitoring technology.

This advanced CO_2 monitoring technology, called CapnoFlex, developed by Respironics Novametrix, is now available from GE Medical Systems *Information Technologies* on GE's Dash® 3000/4000 monitors. The technology provides low-flow sidestream monitoring capability, enabling physicians to monitor end-tidal CO_2 on non-intubated patients that require close observation of their ventilatory status. CO_2 monitoring, also known as capnography, measures the amount of carbon dioxide in patients' exhaled breath.

As CapnoFlex measures the amount of CO_2 in a patient's airway throughout the ventilatory cycle, it indicates whether a patient is adequately ventilated. The proprietary technology also provides physicians with a new option to quickly switch between mainstream and low-flow capabilities, now offering a way to measure ventilation on non-intubated patients with a 50ml sample rate. The resulting data enables physicians to accurately detect respiratory distress and make timely patient care decisions.

"Clinicians have been seeking new ways to utilize CO_2 monitoring and the additional information it offers about a patients' respiratory status," said Kevin King, vice president of Clinical Systems for GE Medical Systems *Information Technologies*. "Having the ability to monitor patients' CO_2 means improved decision-making across the care continuum as physicians obtain an even better picture of their patients' health."

The CapnoFlex module, developed and manufactured by Respironics Novametrix, the industry leader in CO_2 monitoring, attaches to GE's Dash® 3000/4000 patient monitors and is backward compatible with more than 20,000 installed GE Dash® monitors. CapnoFlex features an innovative disposable sample cell, eliminating the possibility of contamination in the monitor.

About GE Medical Systems *Information Technologies*

GE Medical Systems *Information Technologies* provides hospitals and healthcare systems with advanced solutions to improve their clinical performance. The expertise spans the areas of cardiology, patient monitoring, image management, clinical communications, and clinical information systems to enable a real-time, integrated electronic medical record. GE Medical Systems *Information Technologies* is a business of GE Medical Systems, a $9 billion global leader in medical imaging and technology. Additional information about GE Medical Systems can be found at www.gemedical.com.

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