

## New Line of Lightweight, Ultra Slim Point-of-Care Terminals from Advantech

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*Taipei, Taiwan, May 5, 2005* – The latest advancement in point-of-care systems is a new line of ultra slim, lightweight yet full-featured terminals from Advantech Co., Ltd., the world's leading company in industrial computers. The new point-of-care (POC) terminals are light enough to mount safely on a nursing cart, increasing mobility and access to information for hospital care providers. These new products, including the POC-S155 and the POC-S175, are some of the first ever slim panel computers to be designed for POC applications. Both models are currently available from Advantech's line of medical computing platforms.



Point-of-care technology is becoming an essential component of responsible patient care. Bedside access to medical records results in fewer treatment errors, reducing the number of adverse drug events and preventable deaths in hospital. With barcode-enabled networked terminals, medical personnel can quickly and accurately identify patients, view chart information, and update medical records. From any location in the hospital, caregivers can retrieve test results and scans stored on a central database and display them on a local terminal. Patient care records are often integrated with knowledge-based software to support decision-making and to safeguard against dosage error. Research data show that POC systems effectively improve patient safety by reducing medical error by as much as seventy percent.

Computing platforms for point-of-care applications are customized for a hospital environment, and the latest terminals from Advantech have been developed with patient safety as a priority. The rugged design of these terminals features fanless operation to reduce noise levels around in-patient areas, and to prevent the circulation of airborne germs. A waterproof, dust-tight enclosure seals out infectious particles and the surface is easily cleaned with rubbing alcohol. With its curved edges, the panel is shaped to prevent contact injuries. The POC-S155 and -S175 models meet safety standards UL60601-1 and EN60601-1 for medical electrical equipment, and are IP65/NEMA 4-compliant.

With a new slim-panel design, POC terminals are more portable than ever before. Weighing less than seven kilograms each, both the POC-S155 and the POC-S175 are mobile enough to accompany medical personnel on their hospital rounds. The

S175 model has a seventeen-inch TFT LCD screen with a 170-degree viewing angle and, with a contrast ratio of 500:1, serves well for CIS applications. The POC-S155 and S175 are both designed with the Intel® Celeron® M processor and run on DC electricity to reduce power consumption. For connectivity, there are dual COM port interfaces and a mini-PCI slot that connects to an optional WLAN module for wireless access to a hospital database or the Internet. Another hi-tech option is the touch screen display, convenient for high-traffic environments or when desktop space is limited. POC terminals can be customized with peripheral components and adapted for existing networks and system software through Advantech's BTOS/DTOS services.

Although changes in practice are challenging for any hospital, the advanced technology and the technical support now available make the transition easy. When the result is a measurable improvement in patient safety, administrators consider it necessary. If caregivers can enter treatment information directly into a hospital database at the point of care, fewer errors are made, and adverse events are less likely to occur. Point-of-care terminals improve the quality of healthcare by giving practitioners immediate access to complete, updated medical information. The latest slim panel POC terminals from Advantech, with their increased mobility, fanless design, and optional touch screen, make it easier than ever to provide patients with the benefits of advanced technology. The result is a safer, more efficient hospital care system.

**Advantech in Brief**

Advantech Co., Ltd. (Taidex: 2395) is the global leading ePlatform service provider integrating web-based technology, computing platforms and customization services that empower the connected eWorld. Advantech cooperates closely with system integrators to help them add value to their solutions to meet demanding requirements in a wide array of industries. Advantech delivers more than a thousand products and solutions under 3 main categories: Embedded & Applied Computing, Network Appliance, and eAutomation. With the combined talent of more than 2,000 people, Advantech operates an extensive support, sales and marketing network in 16 countries and 28 major cities to deliver fast time-to-market services to our worldwide customers.