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DR. ALESSANDRO CENTINAIO

Owner, veterinarian, Clinica della Brughiera, Cardano al Campo (VA), Italy

Speed counts for horse vet clinic Clinica della Brughiera

At the race track, in the field or in the clinic, Agfa HealthCare's digital imaging solutions speed up treatment for horses

Speed counts for horse vet clinic Clinica della Brughiera

Interview with DR. ALESSANDRO CENTINAIO, Owner, veterinarian, Clinica della Brughiera, Cardano al Campo (VA), Italy

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Race horses, and their owners, demand the best, including superior diagnostic vet services. Clinica della Brughiera, a small clinic near Varese in Italy specialized in equine treatment, gives them just that. It offers 24-hour service, a diagnostic mobile ambulance (available at horse races) and both specialized diagnostics and orthopedic surgery in the clinic. The veterinarians place a lot of demands on their radiography equipment – from precision and quality, to ease of use and speed – in order to carry out their work. The CR 15-X digitizer and Equine DR 35 digital detector are helping Clinica della Brughiera succeed in their mission.

Active horses require top quality, mobile care

Opened in 1980, Clinica della Brughiera has always focused on equine diagnostics. This means it has strong links to horse racing. So providing an ambulance on-site in addition to its in-clinic specialties made perfect sense. The team of 10, including 7 veterinarians, offers a 24-hour service.

Horses from all over Italy and even Switzerland come to Clinica della Brughiera for a broad range of diagnostic tests, including radiography, ultrasound, scintigraphy, magnetic resonance, blood tests and force tests, electrocardiogram, endoscopy and gastroscopy. Orthopedic surgery is another draw for the clinic, as Dr. Alessandro Centinaio – founder and head of the veterinarians – is one of Italy’s top equine surgeons.

Most of the injuries to race horses occur during training or races, which is why Clinica della Brughiera decided to equip its ambulance with a radiography system, in addition to the unit they have in the clinic. “Our needs are different in the ambulance – we are dealing with emergency situations,” says Dr. Centinaio. “For example, we can’t waste any time determining if there is a fracture.”

Pioneering solutions in veterinary radiography

“We have acted as pioneers in veterinary radiography,” continues Dr. Centinaio, “going through all the steps from analog to digital. For example, we were the first in Italy to go digital about 12 years ago, so we have a lot of experience in the field.”

In April 2014, Dr. Centinaio and some of his collaborators provided care facilities for the horses

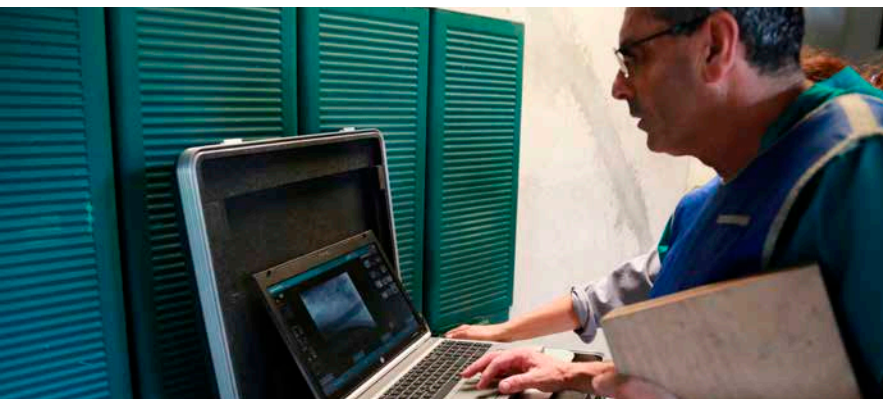
competing in the Longines Global Champion (LGC) Tour 2014. Dr. Centinaio originated an initiative for providing a real mobile vet clinic for the LGC Tour, in cooperation with Agfa HealthCare. The result was the Mobile Horse Vet Clinic. The mobile clinic included Agfa HealthCare’s digital imaging solutions: a CR 15-X digitizer and the Equine DR 35 digital detector, to carry out X-rays during the event.

Wireless, compact and easy to use, with no-compromises image quality

The wireless mobile veterinary Equine DR 35 solution is compact, easy to work with and flexible. It offers wireless image transmission; efficient, fast workflow; improved exam speed; and excellent image quality. It comes with a notebook featuring NX workstation software and dedicated MUSICA for Large Animals image processing software.

The easy and quick imaging solution also offers superior image quality. Portable, it can be placed in the ambulance and used in situations such as races and on-site visits. With all its advantages, Dr. Centinaio decided to use the DR 35 digital detector in the clinic, as well. “Sending images directly to the workstation makes the DR 35 the quickest solution for radiography, which is very important for us whether we are in the ambulance or in the clinic.”

While Dr. Centinaio was already familiar with digital imaging technology, he still appreciates the speed and precision of the Agfa HealthCare solutions. “Agfa HealthCare’s solutions, including the dedicated MUSICA image processing software, are really the next generation for veterinary radiography.”



“The CR 15-X is ideal for emergency situations; the plate is exposed in the field, and can be placed in the CR 15-X digitizer later, for a hardcopy or softcopy image.”

DR. ALESSANDRO CENTINAIO
Owner, veterinarian



CR 15-X digitizer

- Affordable computed radiography
- High throughput
- Compact solution
- Superior image quality thanks to MUSICA software
- Easy to use and maintain

Equine DR 35 digital detector

- Direct radiography for equine use
- Mobile solution with a notebook
- Wireless image transmission
- Efficient and fast workflow
- Superior image quality thanks to MUSICA software



Did you know?

- Agfa HealthCare is a technical sponsor of the Mobile Horse Vet Clinic for the annual Longines Global Champions Tour 2014, running from 24 April – 15 November, at various locations around the world. As part of this sponsorship, Agfa HealthCare's CR 15-X digitizer and dedicated Equine DR 35 wireless digital detector solution are being used by the 'Horse Ambulance Group' to screen and care for the horses participating in the Tour.
- The Longines Global Champions Tour is an annual event that brings together the top 30 ranked riders in the world of jumping to compete in 14 events across 12 countries, for a total season prize money of around €9 million (USD \$12.5 million). The tour hosts Olympic, World and Regional Champions. The collaboration between Clinica della Brughiera and Agfa HealthCare makes it possible to show the state of the art technology in radiography to a worldwide public.

Module and robust solution that is ideal in the field

The table-top CR 15-X digitizer has a modular yet robust design offering high image quality, adjustable speed and a user-tuned workflow.

“The CR 15-X is ideal for emergency situations; the plate is exposed on the field (even in less hygienic situations), and can be placed in the CR 15-X digitizer later, for an image that can be provided in hard copy (printed) or softcopy right in the ambulance.”

The feedback from the mobile clinic experience at the LGC will be used by Agfa HealthCare to create a research group, which will include Dr. Centinaio. This type of user collaboration is key for Agfa HealthCare's continuing evolution and the refinement of its solutions to meet the specific needs of equine care.

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