Meet Siemens Healthineers MAGNETOM Flash (83) 1/2023

#### **Meet Siemens Healthineers**

Siemens Healthineers: Our brand name embodies the pioneering spirit and engineering expertise that is unique in the healthcare industry. The people working for Siemens Healthineers are totally committed to the company they work for, and are passionate about their technology. In this section we introduce you to colleagues from all over the world – people who put their hearts into what they do.

#### Annemie Steegmans, Ph.D.

Annemie studied at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium, where she earned her master's in physics and medical science, and her Ph.D. in MR spectroscopy in superconductors. She started her professional career with a research project on coincidence detection in molecular imaging. In 2008, Annemie became a product specialist for MR at Siemens Healthcare. Since 2012, she has been the business manager for Belgium and a product specialist in MR at Siemens Healthineers, supporting the account managers across various MR projects. Her work involves giving presentations, making configurations, setting prices, and much more.







#### How did you first come into contact with MRI?

When doing my master's in medical science, I needed to write a thesis and one of the subjects was MR spectroscopy on rat liver. This was high-field MRI in small-bore systems. It was fascinating to make and tune the coils. After my master's, I got the opportunity to do a Ph.D. in MR. I seized it with both hands because the technology is wonderful. I started to get curious about MR imaging and how the images are produced. I'm still a big fan of the technology today — I love that it's always evolving.

## What do you find motivating and challenging about your job?

I find it motivating that every day is different: different internal contacts at Siemens Healthineers and different external contacts at the customer's site. And of course, there's the never-ending developments in MR. Before convincing our customers, we have to convince our sales force. But that's not actually very difficult when you believe in the products. Also, Siemens Healthineers listens and responds to its customers. This led to the launch of BioMatrix Technology, with its sensors, tuners, and interfaces. I have been with Siemens Healthcare for almost 15 years, and it is not every year that I get to launch breakthrough technology like the BioMatrix Beat Sensor. This is what makes my job so exciting.

### What do you think are the most important developments in MRI?

Years ago, everything was about channels in the RF chain, but I believe the most important thing was not the number of channels but the complete redesign of the workflow. Redesigning every step of the workflow – from patient preparation right through to acquisition and postprocessing – was really a revolution. Not focusing on one element in the workflow but on every step in it.

Introducing the Respiratory Sensor, the Beat Sensor, Select&GO, CoilShim, and SliceAdjust was also a breakthrough. And then there's our deep learning solution, Deep Resolve, which is really a game changer. Or, as my customer Dr. Dehem says, "a match made in heaven".

# What would you do if you could spend a month doing whatever you wanted?

First of all, I love my job and it is a big part of me, I am passionate about MRI. People who know me know how difficult it is for me to disconnect on vacation. Since we are so busy, I love spending time at home with my family, friends, and our two English Bulldogs, Paulien and Rosie. I love reading, running, working out at the e-gym, and hiking. The last hike we did was the Samaria Gorge in Crete: 16 km through a rugged, beautiful landscape. I also like to travel, and I will never turn down the chance of a meal at a good restaurant.