



**Dear Vascular International friends,**

**2013 Vascular International (VI) takes another major step forward. Our courses are in demand beyond European borders – in the USA by the Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS), at the Boot Camp in Houston as well as by the Saudi-Arabian University in Rhyiad.**

VI is also integrated in the most important international vascular conventions – the EVC in Maastricht, the CX Meeting in London and the “Dreiländertagung” in Linz, Austria, where our tutors will teach using our VI lifelike simulation models. It seems that 2013 is set to be another good year for us – not only because of further courses and increased international activities, but also because recent studies have proved the excellent training impact of the VI hands-on trainings. Simulation training gains more and more importance and has become an integral part of the education of vascular surgeons.

Superior quality and continuous advancement are our highest priority. Our high standards and our increased activities have made it necessary to restructure our internal organisation. Therefore, we have decided to form a Vascular International executive board consisting of the members of the board of trustees and two extraordinary active tutors. I am very delighted to welcome Prof. Dr. Lorenz Gürke, head of the department of vascular surgery at the University Hospital of Basel, and Dr. Klaus Klemm M.Sc., head of the department of vascular surgery of the Marienhospital in Stuttgart, to our executive board for 2013 and 2014.

At this point I would like to thank all the tutors for their tireless dedication as well as our industry partners for their support. Their commitment enables us to foster new developments in vascular surgery according to our slogan “Passion for Education”!

Yours sincerely,



**Univ.-Prof. Dr. Hans-Henning Eckstein**  
President VASCULAR INTERNATIONAL, Munich, Germany

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## NEWS



### Publications

In order to evaluate the training impact of VI courses not only by the feedback of course participants, several studies have been conducted to prove scientifically the progress of the trainees in terms of their technical skills. The results show clearly: With the training on pulsatile, lifelike models, trainees of all disciplines could considerably improve their skills under the guidance of VI tutors. The studies have shown a significant improvement in the time needed for suturing and in the quality of the vein patch-plasty.

[Read more](#)

## REVIEW

### Zurich

The Zurich practical anatomy course on January 21 2013 focused again on all lower limb arteries. Especially the exposition of the popliteal artery, of the tibiofibular trunk and the three arteries of the lower leg were exercised using high quality preparations. The course is not only highly recommended to trainees of some experience but also to more advanced ones. The responsible course instructors were Dr. Georg Heller, head of the department of vascular surgery, Kantonsspital, Graubünden, Chur, and Prof. Dr. Jürg Schmidli, head of the department of cardiovascular surgery, University Hospital Bern.

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### Pontresina

For the first time in the history of the Pontresina courses the basic course and the master class were held within five days from January 28 till February 1 2013. A total of 72 participants from all over the world enjoyed the scenic surroundings to regenerate between the intense training units. One of the many highlights of the basic course was the “Tour de Kronenhof” – a delicious dessert buffet that was served in the kitchen of the “Kronenhof”.

After three demanding days the basic course ended successfully with the “René Becker Running Suture Award”. The happy winner was Dr. Thomas Ratschiller, a young vascular surgeon in training, Munich. He was rewarded with participation in the next Zurich course in 2014.

Vascular International guests Dr. Batsuuri Batsaikhan, a general surgeon from Mongolia, as well as Dr. Nabil Batheeb und Dr. Ali Alshehri, vascular surgeons from the Saudi-Arabian University in Riyadh, were also highly impressed of the courses and the beautiful Swiss mountains.

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## PREVIEW



### Course programme 2013 – 2014

Find [here](#) an overview of all courses or [f](#)

**March 10-12 2013**  
**European Vascular Course**  
Maastricht



This year the Vascular International tutors are again invited to the well-known EVC (European Vascular Course) in Maastricht to teach on VI simulation models. The VI master class will focus on the aorta abdominalis and the aorta carotis. Within three days the participants can learn and train the various techniques for vascular reconstruction procedures.

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**June 14-15 2013**  
**Open and endovascular basic vascular techniques**  
Stuttgart

For the fourth time the venerable Marienhospital in Stuttgart opens its gates to young surgeons in training of different fields. Participants get the chance to perfect their anastomotic and suture techniques on the realistic, pulsatile VI simulation models under the guidance of the course instructors Dr. Johannes Gahlen (Klinikum Ludwigsburg) and Dr. Klaus Klemm (Marienhospital Stuttgart). Beside practical, basic vascular techniques the course will also include theory sessions. The tutors are Dr. Nektarios Galanis, Marienhospital Stuttgart, Dr. Alexander Hyhlik-Dürr, University Hospital Heidelberg, Dr. Alexander Wilko, Staiger, Hospital Ludwigsburg, and Dr. Carsten Weiß, Marienhospital Stuttgart.

**Vascular International thanks all its industry partners for their commitment und support which enable VI to fulfill its mission to offer high quality training for vascular surgeons serving the patient's needs!**

## INFORMATION & CONTACT

**VASCULAR INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
A. Assadian, H.-H. Eckstein, L. Gürke, H. Kiser, K. Klemm, T. Meile, J. Schmidli, H. Schumacher

**SUPPORTING SOCIETIES**  
Austrian Society for Vascular Surgery (ÖGG)  
Swiss Society for Vascular Surgery (SGG)  
European Society for Vascular Surgery (ESVS)  
Division of Vascular Surgery of UEMS

**CME-CREDITS**  
CME, EVCME points /credits will be provided

### REGISTRATION COURSES

Online registration: [www.vascular-international.org](http://www.vascular-international.org)  
You can easily pay per PayPal, Mastercard, Visa, American Express. In case of technical problems while registering please contact [admin@vascular-international.org](mailto:admin@vascular-international.org)

For course-descriptions, more details go to [www.vascular-international.org](http://www.vascular-international.org) or [f](#) or simply contact [info@vascular-international.org](mailto:info@vascular-international.org)

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