Circle Cardiovascular Imaging and Siemens Healthineers establish joint development agreement to enhance cardiac magnetic resonance imaging through improved workflow and innovative imaging capabilities.

**Barcelona, February 1st, 2018** – At the Joint EuroCMR/SCMR 2018 which brings together top clinicians and researchers within the cardiovascular and MRI communities, Circle Cardiovascular Imaging, a privately held cardiac imaging post processing company, and Siemens Healthineers, announced an agreement for joint development with respect to MRI scanner application products and workflows, with corresponding post-processing capabilities. The focus will be to improve cardiac magnetic resonance imaging workflows and diagnostic tools, to increase accessibility, and further CMR as the cardiac imaging gold standard.

In addition to the joint development agreement, Siemens Healthineers and Circle have also agreed on a collaboration that will enable users to run Circle’s cmr42 on Syngo.via – intelligent and integrated imaging software for multi-modality reading and reporting. This integration is enabled by Syngo.via OpenApps which connects Syngo.via to the Siemens Healthineers Digital Ecosystem Store, allowing a tight integration of two leaders in their respective fields, ultimately improving diagnostic capabilities of cardiac MRI and contributing further to the digitalization of healthcare.

**Cardiovascular MR (CMR)** is the most comprehensive and informative imaging tool for cardiovascular disease. Compared with other techniques, it is unique in its combined capability to assess and quantify blood flow, function, and tissue pathology. Furthermore, CMR does not use any radiation or radioactive materials and can be performed increasingly more often without the use of contrast agents. Its use has been shown to save costs for healthcare providers and improve patient outcomes. There are standardized protocols for image acquisition, post-processing, evaluation and reporting, thanks to the efforts of the international Society for Cardiovascular MR (SCMR) and the CMR section of the European Association for Cardiovascular Imaging (EACVI), European Society of Cardiology. Clinical guidelines are increasingly acknowledging the diagnostic value of CMR, recommending its use in patients with a variety of cardiovascular conditions, from coronary artery disease, to non-ischemic cardiomyopathies, congenital heart disease and valvular heart disease.
Chiara Bucciarelli-Ducci MD, PhD, FESC, FRCP, Associate Professor of Cardiology / Non-Invasive Imaging at Bristol Heart Institute, University Hospitals Bristol, United Kingdom said, "Both Siemens Healthineers and Circle CVI have been strong advocates for the use of Cardiovascular MR as the ultimate imaging modality for diagnosing cardiovascular disease. Both companies are market leaders in their field and their collaboration will release a unique synergy to further develop novel approaches such as myocardial mapping, oxygenation-sensitive CMR and other new techniques. Circle offers world-leading software solutions, and its product line cvi42, cmr42, and report42 are designed by doctors for doctors to achieve extremely efficient image evaluation, workflow, and reporting.

As part of this new venture, specifically tailored product versions will be available for researchers using Siemens systems. Circle’s pioneering work and developments in machine-learning will be one of the key elements in the joint development agreement with Siemens as a recognized leader. With this joint effort, these two companies continue to demonstrate their ability to anticipate customers’ needs by offering solutions that will shape the future of cardiovascular imaging. They are paving the way and are leaving their footprint.”

Greg Ogrodnick, CEO of Circle Cardiovascular Imaging, said, “To be partnering with Siemens Healthineers is an exciting development for the future of cardiovascular MR internationally. Given our combined global presence and coupled with our ability to create best-in-class software technologies, we will continue to advance the field of cardiac MR for the benefit of hospitals, health care professionals and their patients.”

About Circle Cardiovascular Imaging
Circle Cardiovascular Imaging Inc. develops analytical software for the cardiac imaging community. Circle's product suite is engineered for use in the cardiac imaging industry to post-process both Cardiac MR and Cardiac CT studies. Circle’s mission is to produce solutions for an intuitive, robust, accurate, and cost-efficient evaluation of tomographic cardiovascular images to help improve patient outcomes.
With over 800 sites in 38 countries interpreting hundreds of thousands of cardiac exams annually using Circle’s product suite, excellence in cardiovascular imaging and care is our highest priority. For more information please visit our website at http://www.circlecvi.com or contact info@circlecvi.com

About Siemens Healthineers
Siemens Healthineers is the separately managed healthcare business of Siemens AG enabling healthcare providers worldwide to meet their current challenges and to excel in their respective environments. A leader in medical technology, Siemens Healthineers is constantly innovating its portfolio of products and services in its core areas of diagnostic and therapeutic imaging and in laboratory diagnostics and molecular medicine. Siemens Healthineers is also actively developing its digital health services and enterprise services. To help customers succeed in today’s dynamic healthcare marketplace, Siemens Healthineers is championing new business models that maximize opportunity and minimize risk for healthcare providers. In fiscal 2016, which ended on September 30, 2016, Siemens Healthineers generated revenue of €13.5 billion and profit of over €2.3 billion and has about 46,000 employees worldwide. Further information is available at www.siemens.com/healthineers.