TWO PIONEERS. ONE VISION.

INFINITE POSSIBILITIES.

1908
German immigrant Reinhold H. Wappler founds American Cystoscope Makers, Inc. (ACMI). Due to his pioneering efforts, today Mr. Wappler is considered the founder of the diagnostic industry.

1919
Takeshi Yamashita founds Takachiho Seisakusho in Tokyo, Japan with Shintaro Terada, who is the first Japanese to develop a microscope using industrial techniques.

1919
ACMI is the largest and best source of urological instruments in the United States. The company develops and patents approximately 50 devices, including such landmark products as resectoscopes, cystoscopes, optical lens systems, lithotripters, urological accessories, otoscopes, and illuminators.

1921
The company is renamed Olympus Optical Co., Ltd. In Greek mythology, Mt. Olympus is the home of the twelve supreme gods and goddesses. Olympus is named after this mountain to reflect its strong aspiration to create high quality, world famous products.

1944
Under the leadership of Frederick Wallace, ACMI develops the first instruments using flexible glass fiber technology, which conducts images through thousands of flexible glass fibers rather than rigid rod lenses.

1950
Olympus develops the first flexible gastrocamera in the world. The first prototype is equipped with a photographic lens located at the tip of the flexible tube. Images are captured on monochrome film by a miniature flashbulb *in vitro* and the film is re-wound by pulling a wire manually.

1954
R. Winter and W. Ibe found Winter & Ibe GmbH in Hamburg, Germany to develop rigid scopes for the surgical field.

1960
Winter & Ibe GmbH develop the first rigid cystoscope.

1971
ACMI is granted a patent for flexible fiber optics technology, expanding into flexible cystoscopes, gastroenterology instruments, and flexible borescopes.

1970s
CIRCON pioneers the use of color video technology for the medical market with the world's first commercially successful medical video system.

1979
Winter & Ibe is merged by Olympus Optical Co.

1985
The first gastrointestinal videoscope is launched, which drastically improves diagnostic accuracy and safety. Olympus releases the first surgical imaging unit called OTV-S.

1980
ACMI is acquired by American Hospital Supply. The company develops the first uterine resectoscope for endometrial ablation.

1983
Everest Medical is formed to provide safer electrosurgical instrumentation to the medical community.

1989
The Goble brothers from Cardiff, Wales, found Gyrus in 1989. Mark, a surgeon and Colin, a technical wizard in the design and development of analog electronics joined forces to harness the power of RadioFrequency (RF) energy for the growing field of minimal access surgery.

1996
Everest Medical introduces the world's first bipolar cutting forceps

2000–2001
Gyrus Group acquires Everest Medical and forms Gyrus Medical, Inc. The PK Technology Generator is married with bipolar hand held instruments to form the PK Technology Platform.

January 2002
CIRCON, Cabot, Surgitek, and ACMI are consolidated into one corporate name – ACMI.

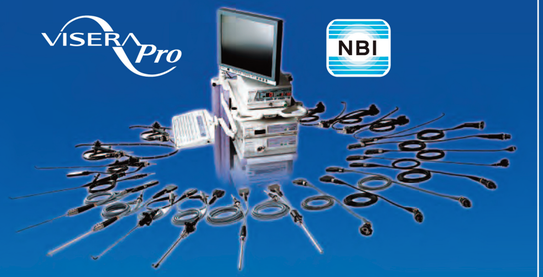
July 2005
Gyrus Group, Plc acquires ACMI Corporation creating Gyrus ACMI, Inc. The new company's mission is to deliver complete "see & treat" solutions to urologists and gynecologists.

2002
The words's first HD endoscopic system called LUCERA is launched in the gastrointestinal field based on HDTV for extremely accurate diagnoses.

VISERA is launched for endoscopic surgery and examination in the surgical field.

SonoSurg ultrasonic surgery system is also released.

2006
Multi-compatible video system EXERA II / VISERA Pro is launched, which features HD technology, HDTV 1080i and Universal Platform with Narrow Band Imaging technology.



2008
Olympus and Gyrus ACMI join forces with a unique combination of expertise in minimally invasive diagnosis and treatment technologies that provide the convenience of an unmatched portfolio of integrated healthcare solutions including advanced visualization and tissue treatment options that improve patient quality of life.

2011
Olympus® Corporation aquires Spirus Medical, Inc. in order to explore new technologies for future generations of endoscope products

2012
Olympus Surgical Technologies America is formed to unify the North American based facilities of Gyrus ACMI®, Inc.

2012
Olympus® launches THUNDERBEAT®, the world's first blood vessel sealing and tissue cutting device to integrate both advanced bipolar and ultrasonic energy with simultaneous output capability.

2012
Third generation video system Exera® III / Visera Elite® is launched, which enables connectivity with next generation HD flexible videoscopes.

1908 1910 1911 1912 1913 1914 1915 1916 1919 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1950 1951 1952 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1971 1972 1973 1979 1980 1979 1980 1983 1985 1986 1987 1989 1990 1991 1995 1996 2000 2002 2003 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012