Milton Company's President Joins Dignitaries in Dedicating Time Capsule

Burlington, VT (February 13, 2012) – The contributions of Ascension Technology to 21st Century medicine are now part of a permanent record for future generations -- following the dedication of the Champlain 400 Quadricentennial Time Capsule last week.

On February 3, Ascension President Ernie Blood joined Burlington Mayor Bob Kiss, John Tracy, state director for U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy, and other dignitaries at a special event marking the end of the Lake Champlain Quadricentennial Celebration, and the beginning of a new chapter in the Lake Champlain region’s history.

City officials, historians, representatives from Vermont’s Congressional delegation and others – including members of the Quadricentennial Commission, the Lake Champlain Basin Program, and the Abenaki community – shared their reflections at the event.

The group then headed to the corner of College and Lake Streets on the Burlington Waterfront to cut the ribbon to the time capsule and monument. The capsule is scheduled to be opened in 2106 to help inform the 500th year anniversary. It contains mementos from the Quadricentennial celebration, along with contributions from the Quadricentennial Committee and a range of Vermont businesses and artists.

Among the contributions is a one-page document from Ascension, describing the company’s history and highlighting the impact its magnetic sensors have had in minimally invasive surgery and other applications.

“Ascension is a great representative of a Vermont-based company,” said Nancy Bove, special events coordinator for the Burlington Parks and Recreation Department, who coordinated the time capsule project. “They’re a successful local business whose cutting edge technologies play a key role in 21st century medicine.” Bove said the goal with the time capsule was to include a cross-section of businesses, organizations and artists that provides a snap-shot of Vermont at the present time.

About Ascension

Ascension makes 3D tracking devices for medical uses such as instrument navigation in image-guided surgery, ultrasound or minimally invasive procedures; biomechanics and motion capture; simulation and training; real-time visualization and computer animation. Ascension’s motion trackers – featuring miniature six-degrees-of-freedom sensors -- are used in everything from 3D ultrasound systems to engineering research to virtual reality displays. Its newest generation of 3D tracking tools includes: driveBAY, trakSTAR and medSAFE.