



**Uscom**

ASX Media Release

## **Additional Uscom BP+ US Patent**

**New method patent approved for heart failure, hypertension and vascular health**

**SYDNEY, Australia, Monday 18th July 2016:** Uscom Limited (ASX code: UCM) (the **Company** or **Uscom**), a revenue stage, cardiovascular medical devices company, today notified the market of the receipt of a Notice of Allowance from the United States Patent and Trademarks Office for a patent covering the method and apparatus for producing central pressure waveforms in an oscillometric blood pressure system. The patent covers the technology in the Uscom BP+ suprasystolic central blood pressure monitor, and has a priority date of 12<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

This patent, covering the method and apparatus of the BP+, combined with the recently allowed patent for the central pressure calculations to measure the blood pressure wave forms generated at the heart, will commercially protect the BP+ device from competitors attempting to copy the Uscom BP+ technology. These US patents are supported by significant financial penalties for such practices and provide commercial protection for the increasing shareholder value associated with the BP+ as it comes to market. The patented technologies within Uscom BP+ improve the measurement of blood pressure, a fundamental clinical measurement, and represent some of the most advanced and innovative of cardiovascular technologies. The central pulse pressure wave measurements generated by the BP+ have application in the diagnosis and management of hypertension and heart failure and have only previously been available using cardiac catheters.

Central blood pressure is an emerging standard of care for hypertension, and many manufacturers are rushing to implement simple transfer functions to convert subsystolic blood pressure measures from the arm, in an attempt to match the benefits of the patent protected BP+ suprasystolic device which has been in development since 2008. However the recent Uscom patents ensure a dominant commercial position of the Uscom BP+ device. Central blood pressure measurement is currently re-imbursed in the USA, and the Uscom BP+ device is being prepared for release into the USA market, and is expected to retail at approximately US\$3,000, significantly lower than most of its competitors which range as high as US\$20,000.

Executive Chairman of Uscom, Associate Professor Rob Phillips said *"This is further recognition of the strength and novelty of our Uscom BP+ suprasystolic oscillometric central blood pressure monitoring science. The BP+ is world leading technology and will change the way we diagnose, manage and monitor hypertension and heart failure. However as BP+ sales revenues begin to grow it is possible that less innovative competitors may attempt to shift from subsystolic methods to simulate our suprasystolic technologies, and these new patents impose strict limits on the design of such devices and provide commercial penalties in the event of infringement. Our company is built on scientific excellence and corporate leadership, and a high quality IP portfolio is a vital shareholder asset which protects future earnings. The Uscom BP+ is on the International Space Station, in multiple research and pharmaceutical trials and providing novel insights in cardiovascular function and disease in adults and children, and it is off the back of these partnerships that we anticipate widespread clinical adoption and significant revenue as the BP+ is brought to global markets."*

*The Uscom BP+ is currently in clinical research environments world wide, and being prepared for global marketing and mass manufacture. The global addressable market is estimated to be approximately US\$2.1b (Select Equities 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016).*

**References:** 1. Stoner L, Lambrick DM, Westrupp N, Young J, Faulkner J. Validation of Oscillometric Pulse Wave Analysis Measurements in Children. American Journal of Hypertension 2014, doi:10.1093/ajh/hpt243. 2.. McEniery CM, Cockcroft JR, Roman MJ, Franklin SS, Wilkinson IB. Central blood pressure: current evidence and clinical importance. Euro Heart J 2014; doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehu565. 3. Avolio A. Central aortic blood pressure and management of hypertension: confirmation of a paradigm shift? Hypertension Editorial 2013; Sept 23. 4. Climie RED, Picone DS, Keske MA, Sharman JE. Brachial-to-radial systolic blood pressure amplification in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. J Human Hypert 2015 doi:10.1038/jhh.2015.101



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### About Uscom

Uscom Limited (UCM) is an ASX listed innovative medical technology company specialising in development and marketing of premium cardiovascular and pulmonary medical devices. Uscom has three practice leading suites of devices in the field of cardiac, vascular and pulmonary monitoring; the USCOM 1A, Uscom BP+ and the Uscom SpiroSonic spirometers. All Uscom devices are premium resolution, and deploy innovative and practice leading technologies, with FDA, CE, CFDA and TGA regulatory approval granted or in application, and which are currently being marketed into global distribution networks.

The USCOM 1A is a simple to use, cost-effective and non-invasive advanced haemodynamic monitor that measures cardiovascular function, detects irregularities and is used to guide treatment. The USCOM 1A device has major applications in Paediatrics, Emergency, Intensive Care Medicine and Anaesthesia, and is the device of choice for management of adult and paediatric sepsis, hypertension, heart failure and for the guidance of fluid, inotrope and vasoactive cardiovascular therapy.

The Uscom BP+ is a supra systolic oscillometric Central Blood Pressure monitor which measures blood pressure and blood pressure waveforms only previously available using cardiac catheterisation. The Uscom BP+ replaces conventional and more widespread sub systolic blood pressure monitors, and is the emerging standard of care measurement in hypertension, heart failure and vascular health. The Uscom BP+ provides a highly accurate and repeatable measurement of central and brachial blood pressure and pulse pressure waveforms using a familiar upper arm cuff. The BP+ is simple to use and requires no complex training with applications in hypertension, heart failure, intensive care, general practice and home care.

Uscom SpiroSonic digital ultrasonic spirometers are high fidelity, digital, pulmonary function testing devices based on multi path ultrasound technology. They are simple and accurate to use and disinfect, don't require calibration, and provide research quality pulmonary function testing in small hand held devices that can be used in research, clinical and home care environments. The devices are specialised for assessment of asthma, COPD, sleep disordered breathing, occupational diseases and monitoring of pulmonary therapeutic compliance.

For more information, please visit: [www.uscom.com.au](http://www.uscom.com.au)

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