



DISA Limited
(Company Registration No. 197501110N)
(Incorporated in the Republic of Singapore)

NEWS RELEASE:

Digital Life Line Pte. Ltd. (“DLL”) Announces Trial Deployment of its AI-Based Retinal Imaging Solution (“AI-VI”), at Alina Vision’s Eye Hospitals in Vietnam; Improving Accessibility to Vision Screening with the Opportunity to Provide a Non-Invasive and Affordable Approach for Early Detection of Age-Related Diseases

- **Advancements in artificial intelligence (“AI”) and retinal imaging technology offer improved accessibility to vision screening with quick, accurate results, potentially allowing for earlier intervention and improved patient outcomes**
- **DLL’s AI-based retinal imaging solution, AI-VI, is based on a proprietary hardware-agnostic deep learning algorithm for quick and accurate detection of visual impairment and it also has the ability to integrate additional AI-tools to detect age-related diseases like Alzheimer and other diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, among others⁽²⁾**
- **As a non-invasive and cost-effective approach, retinal imaging has also been proven useful in the detection of such age-related medical conditions⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾**

SINGAPORE – 29 April, 2024 — DISA Limited (“**DISA**” or the “**Company**”, and together with its subsidiaries, the “**Group**”) is pleased to announce that further to the announcement made in relation to the signing of a MOU with Eye Hospital Social Enterprise Company Limited - Alina Eye Clinic Quang Ninh (“**Alina Vision**”) for the trial deployment of Automated Visual Acuity Test Device (“**AVAT**”) recently on 23 April 2024, DLL, a subsidiary company of the Group, will be implementing the trial deployment of its AI-based retinal imaging solution, AI-VI, at Alina Vision’s two eye hospitals in Vietnam.

Incorporated in 2021, DLL is a Singapore-based ISO13485-certified medical technology company that provides digital, AI-powered diagnostic ophthalmology solutions to enable community-based vision screening for early detection and treatment of vision impairment as well as non-invasive diagnostic solutions.

Founded by an international development organisation, The Fred Hollows Foundation, in 2018, Alina Vision, which currently operates two eye hospitals in the underserved Vietnamese ophthalmology market, provides affordable and high-quality eye care services for people across all income levels to combat avoidable blindness and treat eye diseases. Over the past five years, The Fred Hollows Foundation and Rohto Pharmaceutical, a leading eyecare company in Japan, have provided financial support, eye surgery training and clinical assistance to Alina Vision to grow the organisation from inception to more than 80 employees across the two eye hospitals.

In 2023 alone, Alina Vision has completed more than 2,800 cataract surgeries and it has a vision to become a dominant and market leading service provider in the Vietnamese ophthalmology market

with a chain of eye hospitals across Vietnam, which can cater to the rising demand for the cataract surgeries that has been undeserved by limited medical resources domestically. Notably, the investment of industry specialist growth capital investor, TVM Capital Healthcare, an emerging markets-focused healthcare private equity firm headquartered in Singapore and Dubai, with offices in Riyadh, Boston, Munich, and Ho Chi Minh City, will provide Alina Vision with access to operational, clinical, training, and management resources, in addition to the equity investment.

DLL’s AI-Based Retinal Imaging Solution (AI-VI)

Regular vision screening is recommended for the elderly by the World Health Organization (WHO)⁽³⁾. However, community vision screening presents feasibility and sustainability barriers due to the reliance on trained personnel, and often result in high false-positive rates that lead to excessive referrals to tertiary eye clinics.

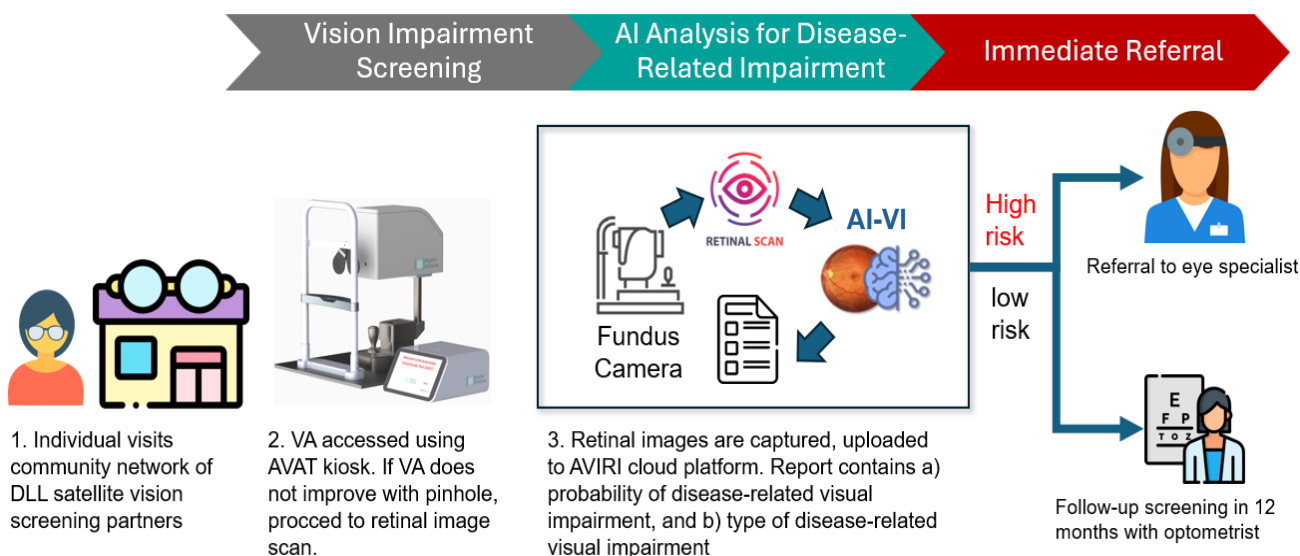
While retinal imaging has gained prominence in the recent years as fundus cameras have improved its useability, a retina specialist is still required to review the retina images for any abnormalities or signs of disease, which imposes a significant manpower burden.

Based on a proprietary hardware-agnostic, deep learning algorithm on various eye pathologies, DLL’s AI-VI can quickly and accurately detect visual impairment, potentially allowing for earlier intervention and improved patient outcomes. This also creates an opportunity for DLL to develop a simple and efficient referral system for tertiary vision care.

Most deep learning models detect eye diseases without factoring the visual function status, and this may result in excessive referrals of cases that do not require immediate treatment. In contrast, the AI-VI model includes the functional status of the individual’s vision and can therefore identify eye diseases with substantial visual loss instead of just eye pathology.

“Using AI-VI, tertiary eye hospitals can implement simple, effective satellite screening in the community to improve accessibility of vision screening that do not require trained personnel.” **Mr. Eddie Chng, the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Group said,** “Our AI-VI produces reliable results in less than a minute, which can speed up triage by allowing for targeted referrals to the ophthalmologists, who will receive the image analysis results with key heat maps before onboarding the patients. This model allows for patients to receive accessible vision screening and faster referrals to tertiary eye care, while ensuring that eye clinics focus on patients who require immediate treatment to prevent irreversible vision loss.”

AI-VI: End-to-End Digitalized Eye Disease Referral Workflow



Detection Beyond Eye Diseases

The role of AI and deep learning models is attracting significant global interest in the field of ophthalmology in the recent years as it offers a great potential for recognising signs of medical conditions in retinal images.

Given its ability to acquire retinal images non-invasively and with minimal operator training, the use of fundus cameras is becoming more widespread in primary care settings, thereby generating large datasets of well-annotated retinal images that can be used to train robust AI models that can quickly identify disease-specific patterns rapidly for immediate triage decision-making.

Such deep-learning models have valuable application beyond ophthalmology, as these retinal features have been linked to non-eye-related diseases like kidney and heart conditions. Since these conditions do not exhibit symptoms in the early stages, AI-empowered retinal imaging solutions have a significant potential to play a big role in the early detection and management of multiple health conditions, further cementing its value in community screening efforts.

Mr. Eddie Chng, added, “Beyond vision screening, our AI-VI also has the ability to integrate additional AI-tools to detect other age-related medical conditions.

Given the non-invasive and affordable nature of retinal imaging, we believe that it will become an important health screen tool in the near future and we aim to harness such opportunities with the expanding capabilities of AI-VI.”

(1) <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3131209/>

(2) <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/eyes-can-be-windows-to-early-detection-of-alzheimer-s-disease-singapore-researchers-find>

(3) <https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/258981/9789241550109-eng.pdf?sequence=1>

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Issued on behalf of DISA Limited by 8PR Asia Pte. Ltd.

Media & Investor Contacts:



Mr. Alex TAN
Mobile: +65 9451 5252
Email: alex.tan@8prasia.com

About DISA Limited (SGX Code - 532.SI / Bloomberg - DISA:SP / Reuters - DISA.SI)

DISA Limited, is a publicly traded company on the Singapore Catalist Stock Exchange. Together with our subsidiaries, the Group focuses on pioneering and adopting the latest technology innovations to enhance outcomes, reduce costs, improve efficiencies within the healthcare and consumer industry.

Bringing scaled solutions that thrive in a changing world, we leverage on our strong in-house R&D capabilities to continuously pursue new innovations and disruptive technology (such as Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, etc.) for the digitalisation of product and services that optimises efficiency and quality standards in our targeted markets.

More information is available at www.disa.sg.

*This announcement has been reviewed by the Company's sponsor, SAC Capital Private Limited ("**Sponsor**"). This announcement has not been examined or approved by the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited ("**SGX-ST**") and the SGX-ST assumes no responsibility for the contents of this announcement including the correctness of any of the statements or opinions made or reports contained in this announcement.*

*The contact person for the Sponsor is Ms. Lee Khai Yinn, Registered Professional, SAC Capital Private Limited.
Address: 1 Robinson Road, #21-00 AIA Tower, Singapore 048542
Telephone number: +65 6232 3210*