



Company Profile

The Use-Lab GmbH is an international, independent and objective co-developer and consultant for medical device manufacturers.

Use-Lab is dedicated to only one mission:

Supporting medical device developers by tailoring products to the needs of the users.

Our specialists in human factors help them fit their products to the physical and cognitive characteristics of the product users by improving usability for safe and intuitive operation. The Use-Lab interdisciplinary team of engineers, human factor specialists, designers, physicians and OR/ICU nurses has extensive experience in usability engineering, with firm knowledge of the different processes in the health care market. Wide experience in analyzing and optimizing OR, ICU, laboratory, home care, lay care, dialysis, and dental care, ophthalmologic and radiological devices is available.

Use-Lab integrates typical user groups into the development cycle in order to consider their requirements early in the development process.

User needs are identified and can be translated into user-centred products.

Thus the manufacturer can avoid costs and time expensive loops at the end of the development cycle and redesigns after product launch can be minimized. Furthermore, the manufacturer can profit from reduced development costs and shorter time-to-market.

Use-Lab provides support to medical device developers with product expertise, process analysis, style guide development, usability verification and validation. We work in compliance with defined standards (IEC 60601-1-6) and maintain direct contact with regulating and certifying authorities (FDA, TPS, TÜV and MDS). Use-Lab has the facilities, the expertise and the know-how to test and validate medical devices with particular emphasis on usability. It is a well equipped centre for ergonomics and usability, including a simulation area for OR, ICU and dental care applications, which is nearly unique in Germany. The simulation rooms are video controlled, featuring half-mirrored windows on an observation and control room, from which the whole scenario of testing a prototype or model can be monitored.

Use-Lab

OVERVIEW

USE-LAB helps create safe, efficient and effective medical products.

USE LAB stands for ergonomics and usability.

For satisfied users, manufacturers and patients.

Worldwide.



Use-Lab GmbH has attained the ISO 9001:2008 certification.

Portfolio

1 Specification

- Process analysis
- Market analysis
- Efficiency analysis
- Risk analysis
- Benchmarking of existing products

2 Conception

- Specification of the human/machine interface
- Design of usability concepts
- Focus groups (verification)
- Documentation for FDA approval

3 Realization

- Design of usability concepts and style guides
- Modelling
- Rapid prototyping
- Laser shaping
- Generation of the usability engineering file
- Hygienic expertise

4 Validation

- Usability tests
- Benchmark tests
- Risk analysis
- Usability test for homecare devices (e.g. required by IKK in Germany)
- Design of manuals and documentation

5 Consulting

- Expert review
- Developmental consulting
- Training (e.g. EN 60601-1-6, device or topic related training for users or service and maintenance staff)

Resources

- Interdisciplinary team
- 11 years experience in usability engineering
- Completely equipped medical simulation rooms with separate observation room and digital video recording system as well as patient simulators
- Eye-Tracking system
- Cooperation with American, Canadian and Chinese usability institutes
- Native speakers for Chinese, French and Spanish
- Strategic cooperation with Notified Bodies
- Cooperation with the faculty of nursing at the University of Muenster
- TIMP Member (network of companies for medical product development)

References (extract)

- ABB Automation Products GmbH
- Aesculap AG
- Alaris Medical Systems (Cardinal Health)
- B. Braun Melsungen AG
- Biosense Webster Ltd.
- Carl Zeiss Surgical GmbH
- Dräger Medical AG & Co. KG
- Erbe Elektromedizin GmbH
- Fresenius Kabi
- Fresenius Medical Care GmbH
- HemoCue GmbH
- Maquet GmbH & Co. KG
- KLS Martin GmbH & Co. KG
- Ondal Industrietechnik GmbH
- Pulsion Medical Systems AG
- Richard Wolf GmbH
- Roche Diagnostics GmbH
- Sanofi Aventis GmbH
- Seca GmbH & Co. KG
- Siemens AG Medical Solutions
- Smiths Medical GmbH
- Spacelabs Medical GmbH
- Steute Schaltgeräte GmbH & Co. KG
- Tunstall GmbH
- Ulrich GmbH & Co. KG
- Vernay Europe B.V.
- Welch Allyn



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