

VERTUAL VOICES

Summer 2025



Executive Team Update

We begin this newsletter with some news of senior management change at Vertual. Our CEO, Debra Leeves, has retired from the company. We wish her all the best and thank her for her input to the company over the last few years. Over the next few months James and I, as Founders, will be working with the Board to decide how we will continue to make progress and develop the company; we will take the opportunity to review the management structure to ensure we can both continue to support you and to develop the exciting opportunities we are working on.

Since the last Newsletter we have been incredibly busy and had an exciting few months. In April we attended ESTRO in Vienna, Austria which was a very busy conference where there was a palpable sense of excitement with a record, increasing, attendance. Our booth was a busy corner of the exhibition, with a great deal of interest in the upcoming new feature of VERT, the new Physics tools and the maturing VERT on Demand.

Tom and I returned to Vienna to the IAEA in May for the ICARO4 conference, a very enjoyable four days meeting many potential customers from the LMIC countries where Radiation Therapy programmes are under development. As part of our follow up work around previous discussions and those held at this conference, we will attend the IAEA General Conference in September where we will participate as part of the UK Delegation, invited to do so by the UK Government's Department of Business and Trade.

In July, we released VERT 9. We had surveyed many customers to learn that July was more convenient to be receiving the new software updates. We will now plan to continue to use this release date for future releases and VERT 10 is already being worked on.

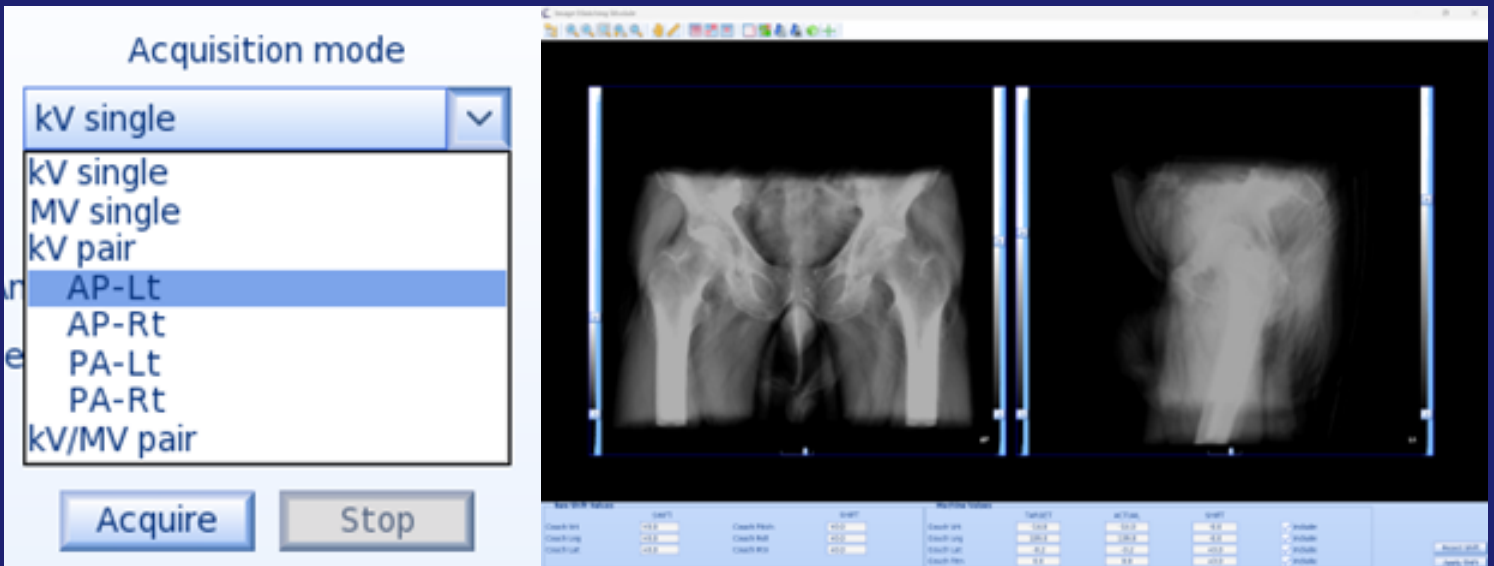
We look forward to updating you on some of these strategic developments and welcoming further users to the VERT family.

Andy Beavis (James Ward)

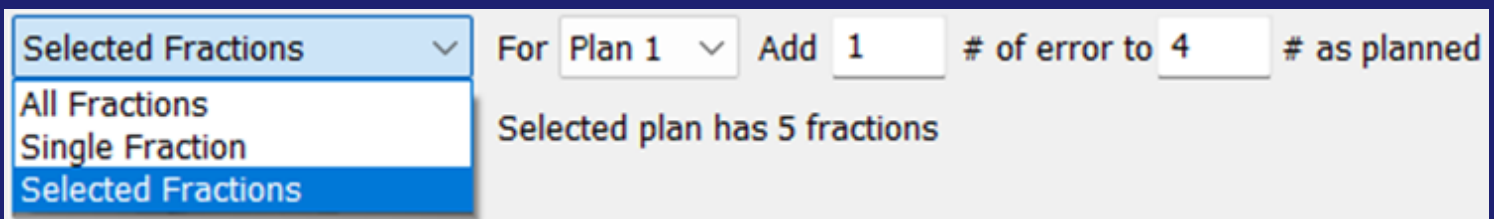
VERT 9

We are hugely excited to announce our latest release, VERT 9, which is the culmination of many months hard work by our dedicated team. It's doubly exciting as this is our first summertime release. It has some fantastic new features, which I hope you will find both useful and enjoyable to use, and we would really love to hear your feedback when you've had a chance to try it out.

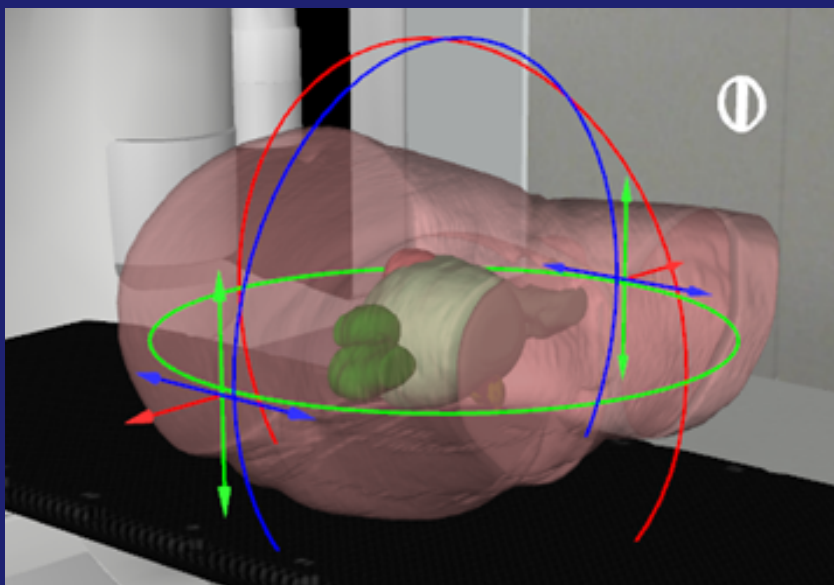
One of the major new features is the enhanced 2D kV/MV matching facilities, which many people have asked us for over the years. It supports kV/MV single, kV pair, and kV/MV pair, with the freedom to select any gantry angle. It's available for any treatment plan that contains CT images and even simulates reduced image quality and contrast with kV and MV images.



We have also significantly improved the DVH by adding a dropdown option to display all fractions, a single fraction, or to apply the setup error only to a selected number of fractions. You can use this in conjunction with all the existing features, including the ability to compare with/without errors, or to compare between plans.



Many of you had asked for a more intuitive way to correct patient setup errors, so we've added a new interactive 3D patient positioning tool. To access this, simply press the SHIFT key, then you can use the mouse to interactively reposition the patient:



We've also made it possible to switch machines without losing the currently loaded treatment plan, which was another much-requested feature. Also, with some constraints, VERT will now allow you to load a Virtual Presenter slideshow on a different plan. The latter is particularly useful if you want to adapt some Virtual Presenter question slides for a different plan.

In total there are over 17 new features to explore in VERT 9. Whilst these are documented in the Release Notes and User Manual, we will be happy to demonstrate them or answer any questions you might have.

The team is already hard at work on the next major release, VERT 10, which is planned for summer of 2026. However, we also have a few other exciting new developments already in the pipeline that we plan to release in a VERT 9.1 update later this year, including support for Biologically Effective Dose (BED), the addition of reference images for our SGRT users, and an exciting feature that will allow the patient to be repositioned manually by using a mobile app.

I'm looking forward to hearing what you think of the new version and, as always, please do get in touch if you have any suggestions for further improvements you would like to see, or if there is anything we can do to support you.

James Ward

Product Specialist and Territory Manager

Sarah Motherway

Highlights from ESTRO 2025 in Vienna

Thank you to everyone who joined us at ESTRO 2025! From live demos of the SGRT module to exciting discussions about our new VERT features, it was an energising event that reaffirmed VERT's impact on modern radiotherapy training. Whether you were exploring VERT for the first time or catching up with us about upcoming updates, we appreciate the global community's continued support.



Empowering Education in Puebla, Mexico

I had the pleasure of delivering an in-person training session in Puebla, Mexico, supporting the launch of their new VERT installation. The session brought together enthusiastic educators and clinicians who are committed to advancing radiotherapy education across the region. From interactive anatomy sessions to patient positioning simulations, the team left inspired and equipped with new tools to enrich student learning. A big thank you to our hosts for their warm hospitality!

VERT at Centro Médico ABC Conference

I was honored to take part in the Centro Médico ABC Conference in May. VERT sparked meaningful conversations on how immersive training can raise standards in both clinical practice and academic settings. A heartfelt thank you to Daniella and Angeline from Sciency-Med, our dedicated distributors in Mexico, for hosting us so warmly.

Hardware Upgrades & Refresh

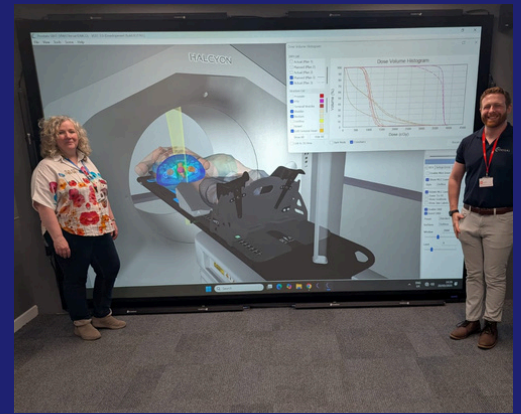
Sean Thompson, Technical Support Specialist

What is a Hardware Upgrade or “Refresh”?

A hardware upgrade or ‘refresh’ replaces all outdated components in your existing VERT system with the latest technology, effectively giving you a brand-new system. This ensures your VERT runs smoothly and performs at its full potential.

St George’s University London

St George’s upgraded their Immersive VERT system in March 2025. By replacing all core components, they now benefit from a significantly faster, brighter system — with a noticeably enhanced 3D experience that drew excellent feedback from their teaching team.



Birmingham City University

Birmingham City University recently moved their Immersive VERT system into a larger teaching space and upgraded their hardware at the same time. The new installation, complete with the largest screen the room could support, has transformed the student experience and created a far more immersive environment for teaching. BCU holds a special place in VERT’s history, being the original UK site for VERT prior to the founding of Virtual. It’s fantastic to see how their commitment to innovative teaching continues to evolve.



Interested in updating your VERT system? Contact Sales@virtual.co.uk to discuss options and find out what a refresh could do for you.

Founders corner



Over the past six months, I've focused heavily on advancing the use of VERT On Demand within Medical Physics MSc programmes. These collaborations have already begun to bear fruit — uncovering a number of universal ideas and best practices that can benefit all of our users.

UCL Collaboration

In March, I had the pleasure of collaborating with colleagues at University College London (UCL) to embed VERT into their Medical Physics MSc programme, within the Radiotherapy Physics module. Using VERT Flex, we delivered an overview lecture on radiotherapy, followed by a focused session on the calibration of ionisation chambers and linear accelerators for both conventional and small-field dosimetry. This session demonstrated the VERT implementations of the IAEA TRS-398 and TRS-483 protocols, developed through my work with the National Physical Laboratory (NPL).

To support students beyond the classroom, we created follow-up online revision activities using VERT On Demand. Recognising that students may not be familiar with hands-on VERT operation, we also built a self-guided orientation session to help them confidently navigate VERT's key features. Tom and Sarah will continue to work with me on expanding this concept, developing modules that we believe will benefit all VERT users.

ESTRO Highlights

My work at UCL formed the basis of my invited presentation at ESTRO in Vienna in April. The response was hugely positive and led to many lively discussions at the Virtual booth. These conversations sparked several exciting ideas that we'll be developing to add further value to VERT On Demand across the global user community.

World Radiotherapy Awareness Day (WRAD)

As mentioned in the last newsletter, World Radiotherapy Awareness Day takes place on 7 September — the anniversary of the first treatment delivered on a linac in 1953 at Hammersmith Hospital, London. We'll be promoting WRAD across our social media channels in September and would love for you to repost and share your thoughts. It remains vital that we continue to shine a spotlight on radiotherapy and its critical role in the fight against cancer.

Celebrating Success

Finally, it is with immense pride and excitement that I congratulate my long-standing friend in the profession and collaborator at the NPL, Prof. Russell Thomas, who has been awarded an OBE in the King's Birthday Honours for his outstanding services to radiotherapy and cancer treatment. Congratulations Prof. Russell Thomas OBE on this thoroughly deserved honour.

Prof Andy Beavis, PhD