Volk News

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Volk Optical Expands Leadership Team with New Vice President Appointment Utkarsh Sharma, PhD joins Volk as Vice President of Product Development and Strategic Marketing

Volk Optical (<u>www.volk.com</u>) has appointed Utkarsh Sharma, PhD Vice President of Product Development and Strategic Marketing.

In this new role, Dr. Sharma will lead product development for Volk's entire range of ophthalmic products. This includes accelerating development of advanced diagnostic, surgical and imaging products that fulfil unmet needs in the vision space, as well as sustaining and improving existing products. The company's products include a full line of reusable and single-use diagnostic and surgical lenses and portable diagnostic ophthalmic imaging systems. Dr. Sharma will contribute to the company's strategic plan as a member of Volk's executive leadership team and board of directors.

Dr. Sharma brings to Volk extensive experience in product development, management and commercialization of ophthalmic imaging systems. Most recently, he served as Director of Optovue's Advanced Development Team, leading the design and commercial launch of numerous ophthalmic diagnostic products. Prior to Optovue, Dr. Sharma was a Project Team Leader and Scientist at Carl Zeiss Meditec, where he led the development of the first FDA approved OCT Angiography (OCTA) technology.

In addition to his industry experience, Dr. Sharma spent time in academia as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at both Harvard Medical School (Boston, Mass.) and the University of Illinois (Urbana, Ill.). He earned a B.S. in Engineering Physics from the Indian Institute of Technology (Bombay, India), and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, Md.). Dr. Sharma holds 15 patents in medical imaging, applications, optics and lasers. He was recently awarded the prestigious SPIE Early Career Achievement Award for his pioneering contributions to ophthalmic imaging devices.

1/1