C-Arm Comparisons



Your Handy Guide to Models, Manufacturers and More





Comparing C-Arms: What You Need to Know

Atlantis Worldwide knows that sometimes it gets confusing when looking for the appropriate C-Arm for your needs. This guide is designed to help you learn all you need to know about C-Arms, so when it is time to make a purchase you'll know the right questions to ask and which type of C-Arm will meet your requirements. Our *C-Arm 101 Guide* can help you figure out what type of C-Arm might fit your needs. **Click here for the free ebook.**

This ebook about C-Arm Comparisons will provide you with details about the different models and manufacturers of some of the most popular C-Arms on the market today.

Atlantis Worldwide has been selling refurbished C-Arms since 1993. When it comes to C-arms our expert knowledge and experience is unsurpassed. Even if you are not ready to purchase today, you can keep this handy guide as a reference.

This is an easy-to-learn guide to the basics,

so raise your hands if you are ready!







Table of Contents

- 1. OEC 9600 & OEC 9800 C-Arm
- 2. OEC 9800 & OEC 9900 C-Arm
- 3. OEC 9800 & OEC 9800 Plus C-Arm
- 4. OEC Brivo Plus C-Arm, OEC 9800 & OEC 9900
- 5. OEC 9800 Vascular C-Arm vs. Siemens Avantic C-Arm
- 6. GE OEC C-Arm vs. Philips Pulsera C-Arm
- 7. Philips C-Arms Compared
- 8. 3 Siemens Arcadis C-Arms Compared: Varic, Avantic & Orbic
- 9. 3 Philip C-Arms Compared: Libra, Endura & Pulsera





OEC 9600 & OEC 9800 C-Arm

They Look Identical, Right?

These days, there's an increased popularity in "Spot the Difference" photos. You see them on the internet, and Facebook, and in popular magazines. At first glance the photos seem identical. But look closer, and there are some real differences. One shirt has five stripes instead of six, one girl has freckles and the other doesn't. Well, if you put an OEC 9600 C-Arm next to an OEC 9800 C-Arm, you'd be hard pressed to be able to tell the difference. The frame is nearly identical. The size and weight are the same. At first glance even most experts can't tell the difference.



So you start looking a little more closely. The steering mechanism on both C-Arms is also exactly the same, except for the first OEC 9600 produced between 1994-1995. Those were produced with straight steering, which made them extremely difficult to maneuver. But the vast majority of those currently in the marketplace have identical steering mechanisms to the OEC 9800.

Ah, but there is a difference. No, it's not freckles. The 9800 has a touch screen, so it's easy to navigate through patient information. The 9600 doesn't have a touch screen, so you have to use a keyboard to input all information. That makes it a little less convenient to use.

When it comes to software configurations, the 9600 has Surgery Package (SP), General Surgical Package (GSP), Expanded Surgical Package (ESP), Vascular with 4/8/15/30 Frames per Second (FPS), Neurovascular and Cardiac. The 9800 has General Surgical Package (GSP), Expanded Surgical Package (ESP), Vascular with 8/15/30 FPS, Neurovascular and Cardiac. Again, very similar.

With the 9600, you get a very capable 7.5KW high frequency generator. However, the 9800 has a little more va-va-va-voom, with a 15KW high frequency generator. This provides better penetration for larger patients.

The OEC 9600 C-Arm was manufactured between 1994-1999. The 9800 came to be in 1999 and continued through 2006. That being the case, you should expect more longevity out of an OEC 9800 than from an OEC 9600.



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OEC 9600 & 9800 continued...

The choice is really up to you. When you buy an OEC 9600 instead of a 9800, you'll pay 30-40% less. While you might get a little less convenience without the touch screen, it sure can help your bottom line. That being said, you can be more confident in an OEC 9800 lasting longer than you can in an OEC 9600.

Weigh the pros and cons—or freckles or stripes—of the 9600 and 9800 so you can make the right choice for your facility.



OEC 9800 & OEC 9900 C-Arm

Which C-Arm is Right For You?

So you're in the market for a C-Arm and are torn between the OEC 9800 and the OEC 9900. Which do you choose?

Well, that depends.

If your decision is driven by budget constraints, you'll most likely choose the OEC 9800. After all the newer OEC 9900 model has added features, which adds to the price. To cut to the chase and view the price guide, click here.

However, if you are a curious one, who wants to know if the higher price for the OEC 9900 is justified - keep reading.



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OEC 9800 & 9900 continued...

When using the OEC technical brochures to compare the OEC 9800 and OEC 9900, there are more common features than new ones. Most C-Arm users will be perfectly satisfied with the 9800. OEC knows this, which is why the 9800 is still being produced. So why would you pay more for the newer 9900? Let's find out.

Monitors

Both the 9800 and 9900 offer 1K X 1K resolution, which means every inch on either monitor screen delivers 1,000 lines. The image quality is virtually the same on both systems. However, the OEC 9800 uses an 18" CRT monitors while the OEC 9900 uses an articulating flat panel monitor. It's equipped with a swivel arm that lets you turn the monitors to face you without having to move the entire system.

Hard Drive

OEC 9800: The image storage capacity on the OEC 9800 GSP system is 63 images.

The Image storage on the OEC 9800 ESP system is 200.

OEC 9900: The image storage capacity on the OEC 9900 GSP system is 63 images.

The image storage on the OEC 9900 ESP is 1,000.

Storage

Both the OEC 9800 C-Arm and OEC 9900 come with DICOM, which can be hooked up to a PACS system. That means the storage capacity on the hard drive really does not come into play. However, if your facility does not have a PACS network, you can connect a flash drive directly into the system via the USB port. The OEC 9800 doesn't have a USB port and must be outfitted with a Medicapture Device for image storage. This device comes with that USB Flash Drive that can hold up to 10,000 images. You can remove the flash drive at any given time and download it into a PC or EMR system. You can then clear the USB flash drive and reuse it.

Common Features

The X-ray tube, Generator, Image Intensifier, Steering and Imaging Chain are the same in both the OEC 9800 and OEC 9900.

The OEC 9900 has a few added features, including:

- HIPAA secure view
- USB/DVD storage
- Pre-set image profiles for each configuration
- Increased onboard static image storage
- Improved software features for vascular work

To summarize, both systems are great. The OEC 9900 is clearly a superior system but the benefit may not justify the cost. If your facility doesn't have a need for these few new features, by all means, save your money and go with the OEC 9800. For your convenience, here are the specs for both C-Arm systems: Click here OEC 9900 Click here OEC 9800



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OEC 9800 & OEC 9800 Plus C-Arm

What is the Difference?

Here at Atlantis Worldwide, we sell a lot of OEC C-Arms. That being the case, we get asked all sorts of questions about them: Why is it called a C-Arm? Do I need vascular capabilities? Will this C-Arm fit in a 10' x 12' room? When it comes to OEC 9800s, the question we hear the most often is, "What is the difference between an OEC 9800 and an OEC 9800 Plus?"

The general belief is that the word *Plus* must mean that the OEC 9800 Plus has additional features over its OEC 9800 counterpart. After all, isn't that what the word Plus means? However, the truth of the matter is that there are five areas of difference, but the differences between the two are actually negligible.



Age

The OEC 9800 was introduced in 1999, with the OEC 9800 Plus coming to market in 2002. It's true, many people believe "newer is better." However, that is not always the case. When it comes to C-Arms, the most important consideration is the level of maintenance and care that was given to the system over the course of its lifetime. We have seen OEC 9800s made in 2000 that are in great condition.



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OEC 9800 & 9800 Plus continued...

We've also seen newer OEC 9800 Plus systems in terrible condition. (However, it's also important to note that Atlantis Worldwide refurbishes every C-Arm that we sell, so its functional and cosmetic condition never needs to be a concern.)

Software

OEC 9800 Plus units have current software. However, this is a moot point because the software for OEC 9800s (be it regular or Plus systems) is similar to that of a computer, in that it's upgradable to the most current software available. (Note: When Atlantis Worldwide sells an OEC 9800, the software is always updated to the most current version available.)

DICOM

DICOM is a feature that allows you to electronically transfer images to a PACS network for alternative viewing and storage purposes. It is a standard feature for OEC 9800 Plus C-Arms. It was not a standard feature on the OEC 9800s manufactured in 1999 or 2000, except those made for vascular purposes. It was, however, standard in most OEC 9800s manufactured in 2001. DICOM is not necessary for any facility that does not have a PACS network. For those locations that require it, DICOM is an easy add-on to systems that don't have it internally. (Note: Atlantis Worldwide can easily add DICOM to any OEC 9800.)

Image Storage

When OEC 9800s were introduced, the Expanded Surgical Package (ESP) units came with 200-image storage. When the OEC 9800 Plus was introduced, ESP units came with 400-image storage. That being said, how many images a system can store has become a non-issue. Most facilities just add an external storage solution like DICOM or use a Medicapture device, which is a box hard wired to the system. It transfers images to a USB drive that can plug into a computer. You can also print the images, but that is being used less and less these days.

Appearance:

The exterior of the OEC 9800 Plus looks a little bit different from the OEC 9800. There are minor visual changes, not unlike how a car will look slightly different than the same model produced a year prior. Likewise, there are a few internal boards that are slightly different from their predecessor but make a negligible functional difference.

In conclusion, when you're looking for a pre-owned and refurbished OEC 9800, requesting a Plus system should not be your biggest concern. You should be more concerned with functionality, image quality and storage options, all of which are consistent between the OEC 9800 and the OEC 9800 Plus.



OEC Brivo Plus, OEC 9800 & OEC 9900 C-Arm

Which is Right for You?



The OEC 9900 is the latest and greatest OEC currently on the market—and being such, it can be a costly purchase for a healthcare facility. Many clinics, hospitals and practices are considering a more affordable solution: the OEC Brivo C-Arm.

The OEC Brivo Plus C-Arm is a budget device that's used for basic intra-surgical imaging. It delivers an intuitive workflow, wireless connectivity, and Advanced Clear Intelligence imaging. It's ideal for surgery centers that need a simple "point and shoot" C-Arm for everyday applications. The OEC Brivo C-Arm features include:

- A proven and familiar OEC interface for confident operation
- Automated features, including true point-and-shoot capability to help improve productivity
- Advancement in steering and construction for maneuverability and a smaller profile
- SMART options (SmartMetal, AutoTrak and AutoWindow)to help perfect your technique in more challenging situations
- Low dose features to help you get the right image at the right dose
- 1k x 1k high resolution imaging technology from a fully digital image processing system
- A 9" Image Intensifier which provides high spatial resolution
- A Carbon fiber grid reduces scatter radiation effect, while improving image detail
- A touch screen user interface that reduces procedure time and improves efficiency
- Advanced connectivity, with wireless DICOM and MPPS

While the OEC Brivo is a high quality C-Arm, you won't get the full library of features that the OEC 9900 delivers, and it can't be used as strenuously as the OEC 9900. It's also slightly smaller in size. However, it can be an ideal solution for surgery centers that don't use it all day, every day. It also requires less space than a large C-Arm.



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OEC Brivo Plus, OEC 9800 & 9900 Plus continued...

Physical Specifications of OEC Brivo Plus C-Arm

C-Arm

System length 71.3 in (181 cm) System height 69 in (175 cm)

System width 30 in (76 cm)

Workstation

Height 65.8 in (167 cm)
Width 35 in (89 cm)
Depth 24.7 in (63 cm)

The Benefits of a Refurbished OEC 9800 C-Arm

Another alternative to the OEC 9900 is a refurbished OEC 9800 C-Arm. It delivers superb image quality and is a real workhorse. You can depend on it every hour, every day and every year. Its 15kW rotating anode X-ray tube, tube cooling system and small focal spot allows dense anatomy penetration with ease. The proven design facilitates longer fluoro ontime, so you can get a great image in almost any situation.

- It's designed to deliver more consistent uptime with its high performance rotating anode and patented battery buffer technology
- Durable 9800 C-Arms have withstood the punishment of wheeling, propping, positioning and cleaning for more than 10 years.

The most significant difference between the OEC 9900 and OEC 9800 C-Arm is the fact that the OEC 9900 has flat screen monitors and a swivel arm that allows you to position the monitors to face you, no matter where you are in the room. From a functionality and feature standpoint, differences are marginal and don't justify the price difference between the two.

Physical Specifications of OEC 9800 C-Arm

9", 12" or Super C Image Intensifier Mainframe System length 75.9" (193cm) System height 69.8" (177cm) System width 33" (84cm) Workstation Height 64" (163cm) Width 27" (69cm)



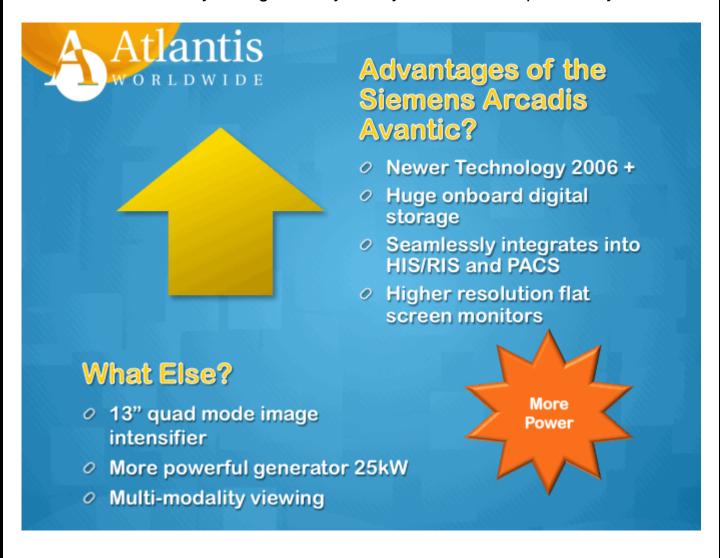
OEC 9800 Vascular vs Siemens Avantic C-Arm

Which Would You Choose?

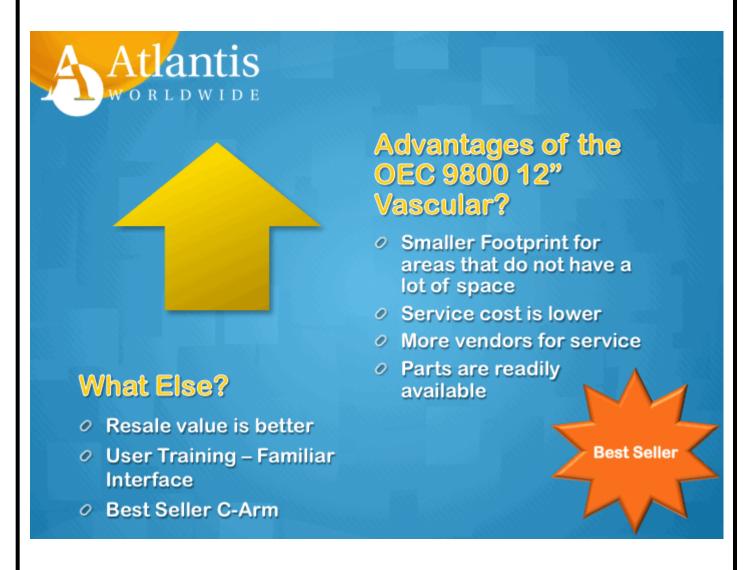
Everyone knows that Siemens Arcadis C-Arms and GE OEC C-Arms deliver high performance and quality and can be a terrific investment for your hospital, imaging center, practice or clinic. We have created a short slide show of the differences and similarities between two popular models that could work for for your vascular needs: the OEC 9800 Vascular C-Arm and the Siemens Arcadis Avantic C-Arm.

Spot The Similarities

Functionality - Image Quality - Easy to Handle - Dependability



OEC 9800 Vascular vs. Siemens Avantic C-Arm continued...



The Bottom Line

- Both the OEC 9800 Vasclar and Siemens Arcadis Avantic are top-of-the-line C-Arms from well respected OEMs
- · Each C-Arm has features that make them stand apart from each other
- Both C-Arms are popular models
- If you need more questions answered before you decide, Atlantis is here to help!



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OEC C-Arms vs Philips Pulsera C-Arm

Which One Fits Your Budget?

The first question everyone wants to know is what is the price difference between GE OEC C-Arms and Philips Pulsera C-Arms. GE OEC is more expensive – this is a definitive fact of the world we live in, like the earth being round.

Both Philips and GE OEC are great C-Arms. However our customers have overwhelmingly preferred the GE OEC brand over any other manufacturer for the last 20 years. Over the years OEC has maintained approximately 70% market share in the C-Arm marketplace – this fact illustrates the dominance of OEC C-Arms over all of their competitors and definitely influences the C-Arm purchase decision.

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GE OEC C-Arm vs Philips Pulsera C-Arm		
GE 0EC 9600s - \$40k-45k		
GE OEC 9800s - \$65k-85K	Philips Pulsera - \$40k-70k	
GE OEC 9800s - \$65k-85K GE OEC 9900s - \$90k-140k	Philips Pulsera - \$40k-70k	

Maintenance And Repair

Because of the huge market share of GE OEC products, it is much easier and less expensive to service and repair OEC C-Arms. There is an enormous supply of parts and many more qualified third party ISO (Independent Service Organizations) available to service OEC C-Arms. Philips C-Arms, in particular, may require proprietary software only available from Philips for service and repair.

Functionality

Basically the OEC and the Philips C-Arms both function well and provide quality images and applications for your specific needs. Most customers are equally happy with either OEC or Philips C-Arms.

GE OEC 9900 C-Arm vs Philips Pulsera C-Arm		
Specifications		
Generator	15kW	7.5kW
kV Range	50-120	60 Fitted
mA Range	Up to 75 @ 120kVp	3.25 - 125
Tube Power Rating	15kW @ 100 kVp	15kW @ 110kvp
X-Ray Tube	Rotating Anode	Rotating Anode
Heat Capacity	300,000 HU	300,000 HU



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OEC C-Arm vs. Pulsera C-Arm continued...



Depending on the procedures you will be applying you might need a more powerful C-Arm.

Features Versus Costs

Essentially the main issue in selecting a GE OEC or Philips C-Arm is a price versus functionality and age decision. Because of the significantly lower cost of Philips Pulseras, you can purchase a much newer C-Arm with newer features for the same or less money than the equivalently priced OEC C-Arm.

As you can see from our price chart:

GE OEC C-Arm vs Philips Pulsera C-Arm Prices

1996 -1999 GE OEC 9600s - \$40k -45k vs 2002-2005 Philips Pulsera R1- \$40k-50k 1999 - 2006 GE OEC 9800s - \$60k-85k vs 2005-2009 Philips Pulsera R2 -\$50k-65k

All are excellent C-Arms and depending on what your procedures and budget are there is a perfect C-Arm for you.



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Comparing 3 Siemens Arcadis C-Arms

Varic, Avantic & Orbic

Everyone knows that Siemens ARCADIS C-Arms deliver high performance and quality and can be a great investment for your practice, hospital or clinic. However, with three different ARCADIS C-arms to choose from, how do you know which one is right for you?

Let's explore the differences between the ARCADIS Orbic 3D, ARCADIS Varic and ARCADIS Avantic.



The ARCADIS Orbic 3D is a high-end C-arm with iso-centric design and 190 degree orbital movement. It's ideal for intraoperative use in orthopedic, trauma and spine surgery.

The ARCADIS Varic supports a broad range of applications like orthopedics, trauma, vascular surgery and urology.

The ARCADIS Avantic is a high-end, high power multi-purpose C-Arm. It provides a larger field of view for vascular and cardiac surgery, gastroenterology and other fields of practice. Now, let's look at what all three systems have in common:

- Optimally matched, fully digital 1K²-imaging chain from image acquisition to viewing and archiving
- Automatic dose, contrast and brightness control with EASY (Enhanced Acquisition System)
- Large 19" high-brightness, high contrast TFT monitors
- Extraordinarily wide viewing angle of 170° and a highly ergonomic mounting on the trolley.
- Monitor out interface for viewing on additional monitors

Now, let's look at some of the specific differences:



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3 Siemens Arcadis C-Arms continued...

Imaging Features Available Only with ARCADIS Orbic 3D:

- It requires 60 seconds for a high quality scan comprising 100 2D images
- It requires only 30 seconds for a complete standard quality scan with 50 2D images in 1K2 resolution
- Short and sweet, the iso-centric design and 190° orbital movement offers virtually unlimited imaging projection
- The 3D Image Fusion is ideal for merging 3D data even from different modalities
- VRT (Volume Rendering Technique) delivers volume visualization and easy orientation in the dataset
- A 3D dual monitor support allows for synchronized parallel scrolling displayed on two monitors
- Each moving direction of the C-arm is represented by a color-coded measurement scale
- You can initiate a selection of programs by using VPA (Virtual Patient Anatomy). Simply click on the VPA body region to be examined to select the appropriate application program

Imaging Features Available Only With ARCADIS Avantic:

- (13") image Intensifier
- High tube currents of up to 250 mA
- "Power Mode" for applications where high power is required
- DCM* (Digital Cine Mode) with up to 30 f/s image acquisition for imaging of moving dye and organs
- Permanently optimized imaging through dual focus and rotating anode
- Get superior patient access and positioning flexibility with counterbalanced C-arm design for excellent values in free space, immersion depth and overscan
- Positioning is fast and easy with electromagnetic brakes with intelligent color coding
- The multifunction footswitch* (as an alternative to the standard footswitch) allows control of all operating modes and single-image storage out of the sterile field.

Integration Into Clinical Workflows- What All Three Have in Common:

- Fully functional multi-modality workstations. Multi-modality viewing allows you to access images from other modalities, like CT & MR
- Supports virtually all DICOM* 3.0 functionalities: i.e., comprehensive connectivity with other modalities and clinical networks
- All patient data can be loaded to your worklist directly from your HIS/RIS
- You can guery the archive using the Search function
- Syngo DICOM* Viewer is ideal for platform independent viewing of images
- The X-ray tube delivers currents of up to 23 mA in demanding interventions. It also allows for more than 50 minutes of fluoro time in low dose



3 Siemens Arcadis C-Arms continued...

- Fluoro Loop* delivers an automatic replay of acquired scenes directly after radiation stops
- With LSH* (Last Scene Hold), up to 120 of the last acquired images can be kept in a temporary memory and optionally stored in the local database
- The trolley design is ergonomic, lightweight and compact for better maneuverability. It also requires less space
- Cable-free rear side and 180° rotatable monitors significantly reduces the distance to the OR table
- Monitors can be adjusted vertically and horizontally for adaption to application specific needs
- You get intelligent accessory and cable management, including an integrated CD and pen box
- Easy accessibility to all network and video interfaces for direct connections, without any cable chaos
- X-ray indicator is located on top of the monitors for best visibility from any direction

All Three Provide Optimal Flexibility in Data Handling

- Supports virtually all DICOM 3.0 functionalities (including DICOM Send/Receive, Storage Commitment, Print, Worklist, Query/Retrieve and MPPS)*
- Provides almost unlimited options for postprocessing, archiving and documentation (with CD, DVD in DICOM and with USB in DICOM and BMP format)
- You get an overall storage capacity of 60,000 images

All Three Provide Dose-Saving Features

An integrated laser light localizer*, radiation-free collimation and multi-level dose control are only a few of many optional dose reduction features.

All Three Offer Optional Emotion: Sound System

This integrated onboard sound system provides a positive working atmosphere on all three ARCADIS systems.

*Optional

NaviLink 2D: Is Only Available on Orbic & Varic C-Arms

Integrated, digital 1 K²-navigation interface (NaviLink 2D) delivers automatic transfer of 2D images in 1024 x 1024 resolution for optimum surgical navigation.



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3 Philips C-Arms Compared

Libra, Endura, Pulsera

If you're interested in a C-Arm, we believe Phillips is a brand to look at, especially in the preowned or refurbished market. Let's compare three different options: Philips Libra, Endura and Pulsera.



Philips Libra

The Philips Libra is a compact C-Arm, similar to the Siemens Compact L. The Libra is smaller in size and weight than both the Endura and Pulsera, but all three have a 9" tri-mode image intensifier. However, the similarities end there. The Libra has a max power output of 3.15 kW (less than half of that of the Pulsera) and its kV range is 40-105. Unlike the Pulsera, which has a rotation anode, the Libra has a stationary anode. That being the case, the Libra has a lower anode heat capacity (50,000 HU) and X-Ray Tube heat capacity (1,200,000 HU). A lower heat capacity generally means you are unable to do as many high dose procedures in repetition. This C-Arm is ideal for a small practice that does not need a C-Arm workhorse to use all day, every day. It is not ideal for facilities with larger patients, being that it is a compact C-Arm.

Philips Endura

The Philips Endura is the lower-end alternative to the Philips Pulsera. It is similar to the OEC 8800 (and now OEC Brivo), as those C-Arms compare to the OEC 9800 and OEC 9900. It is comparable in size to the Philips Pulsera. However, its max power output is 3.15 kW (less than half of that of the Pulsera) and its kV range is 40-105. It also has a stationary anode and thus has an anode heat capacity of 50,000 HU and an X-Ray Tube heat capacity of 1,200,000 HU. This lower heat capacity limits the continued use of this system throughout the day. As a result of these limitations, this C-Arm is a less expensive choice than the Pulsera, and ideal for a facility that wants a full size C-Arm but doesn't need a workhorse. It's also perfect for a back-up system if you already own a Philips Pulsera.



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3 Philips C-Arms continued...

Philips Pulsera

The Pulsera is considered the standard "go-to" C-Arm by Philips. It is a full-size C-Arm with a tri-mode image intensifier available in both a 9" or 12" option. Its max output power is 7.5kW and has a kV range of 40-120, both of which enable higher penetration and clarity of images. Most importantly, the Philips Pulsera has a rotating anode, which enables the C-Arm to have a 300,000 HU anode heat capacity and a 1,900,000 X-Ray Tube heat capacity. The Philips Pulsera can also be equipped with vascular and cardiac capabilities, so the system can be used for additional procedures. However, it's important to note that not all Philips Pulseras have vascular capabilities. The Philips Pulsera is a true workhorse C-Arm so you can use it all day, every day without fear of overheating. It can also be used for just about any procedure, especially if it is tailored to your specific practice.

Other Considerations

The Philips Pulsera can store a maximum of 10,000 images, whereas the Libra and Endura only store 16 images. That being said, most facilities have an external storage option to make this a non-issue.

The Veradius is the newest C-Arm from Philips. Unlike the Philips Pulsera, it's equipped with a digital detector. However, because it is so new to the market, it's rare to find it on the preowned market. When this system is available, it tends to be very expensive.

In conclusion, Philips is one of the leaders in the C-Arm market for a good reason. They manufacture high quality and reliable C-Arms that you can use with confidence. Just remember to do your research and make sure you are buying a C-Arm that most closely aligns with the needs of your practice.

C-Arm Services!

Make Sure you get a Service Plan with Warranty

A service plan with a warranty is an absolute must. When the time comes to discuss the coverage of your warranty plan, make sure it includes parts and labor as well as travel time. Also be aware that not all warranties cover everything. Some plans exclude the X-Ray Tube and Image Intensifier, which just so happen to be the two most expensive parts to replace. Others prorate the X-Ray Tube and Image Intensifier. It's important to know that just like other expensive pieces of equipment there will need to be service done on the system at some point. Whether it is a routine preventative maintenance or a larger issue that needs to be repaired, make sure there are local service engineers that can come out to work on your system in a timely manner.

Renting/Financing Options

Like buying a home or car there are many finance options available. At Atlantis equipment financing is available based on your budget and needs. Our knowledgeable staff will help you determine and obtain appropriate financing options. http://www.atlantisworldwide.com/maintain-equipment/financing/financing-options/

Still Have Questions:

We may have not answered all of your questions in the Comparison C-Arm Guide but we at Atlantis are always available if you need more information. We would be more than happy to help you with your questions and concerns.

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