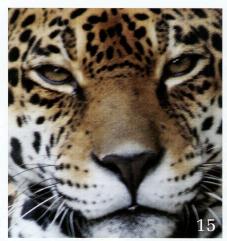
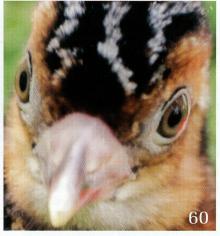
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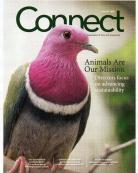
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## **Member View**

#### **Animal Welfare**

## Black Rhinoceros at Brookfield Zoo Undergoes Portable CT Scan

On 19 April, Layla, a 71/2 -year-old, 2,300-pound eastern black rhinoceros who lives at Brookfield Zoo in Brookfield, Ill., underwent what is believed to be the first CT (computed tomography) scan ever performed on this species. The scan was necessary to help Chicago Zoological Society (CZS) veterinarians determine the next steps for treating a known obstruction in Layla's nasal passageway. Layla was too large to move inside the Zoo's animal hospital, where the Zoo's CT scanner is located, so staff brought a CT scanner to Lavla's habitat instead. NeuroLogica, a subsidiary of Samsung Electronics, generously donated the use of its BodyTom®, the world's first battery-powered, portable, 32-slice CT scanner, for the procedure. The process of moving Layla to and from the machine was extraordinarily delicate and required the presence and precision of a team of nearly 40 dedicated Zoo staff, as well as technicians from NeuroLogica and Sound Technologies, who donated their services to set up and operate the CT machine.

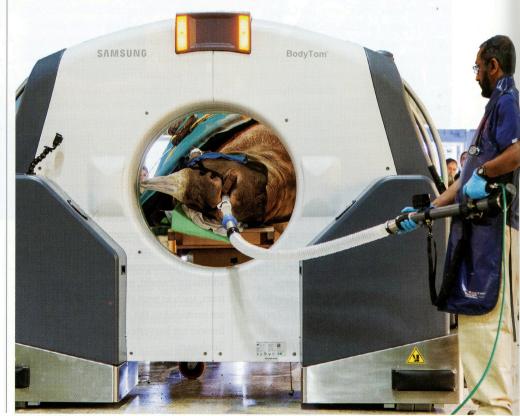
"The CT scan provided diagnostic results that we could not have otherwise obtained," said Dr. Michael Adkesson, vice president of clinical medicine for CZS, which manages Brookfield Zoo. "This procedure is an example of our commitment to providing the animals in our care with the most advanced medical treatment available. More importantly, though, the CT scan on Layla has provided us an unparalleled look inside of her skull. The images we obtained will guide our future treatment plan. We are extremely grateful to NeuroLogica and Sound Technologies for their support in this critical undertaking to help Layla."

To prepare for the CT scan procedure, the Chicago Zoological Society's carpenters constructed a custom-made platform. After being anesthetized and stabilized, Layla was carefully slid onto the platform and a frontend loader was used to gently move her onto the Zoo's large surgical table. Animal care specialists and grounds staff then carefully moved the table to the portable CT scanner set up in the Pachyderm House. The flawless procedure was possible, in part, due to several practice runs staff had performed using 2,300 pounds of concrete to simulate Layla's weight.

Layla was born on 18 October 2010, at Kansas City Zoo in Kansas City, Mo. She arrived at Brookfield Zoo in 2012 on a breeding recommendation from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' Eastern Black Rhinoceros Species Survival Plan<sup>\*</sup>. There are currently 59 eastern black rhinoceroses in North American zoos. This species is considered critically endangered with approximately 5,000-5,400 individuals living in the wild.

"Not only is Layla valuable to the rhinoceros population in professional care, she also plays an important role at Brookfield Zoo by raising awareness about the species and why conservation efforts are so critical," said Amy Roberts, senior curator of mammals for CZS. "When our guests come to see Layla and our other black rhinos, we hope they will be inspired to care about these amazing animals so that future generations will be able to also appreciate them.

According to the International Rhino Foundation, in the 20th century, the black rhinoceros suffered the most drastic decline in total numbers of all rhino species. Between 1970 and 1992, the population of this species decreased by 96 percent. In 1970, it was estimated that there were approximately 65,000 black rhinos in Africa, but less than 25 years later, there were only 2,300 surviving in the wild. The black rhino population is recovering and increasing very slowly, but poaching remains a great threat.



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