



CASE STUDY EASING THE PAIN OF SYSTEM CONVERSION

Rockingham Memorial Hospital • Harrisonburg, VA

Automating the migration of key data from Siemens to MEDITECH C/S 5.6 speeds major HIS conversion.

Rockingham Memorial Hospital, located in Harrisonburg, Va., is an independent community hospital that has been providing healthcare services since 1912. Serving a seven-county area with a population of close to 200,000, the 238-bed hospital admits more than 15,500 inpatients annually and delivers close to 1,750 babies per year.

When Rockingham made the monumental decision to switch its healthcare information system (HIS) from Siemens, a system it had had for two decades, to MEDITECH, systems managers knew the conversion would affect its vendors, physician practices, the applications the hospital uses, and its processes. It is one of many steps toward an even bigger change—transferring to a brand new, 250-acre hospital facility by 2010. The hospital leadership wanted to ensure the new HIS was in place, and the staff was comfortable with it, prior to the big move.

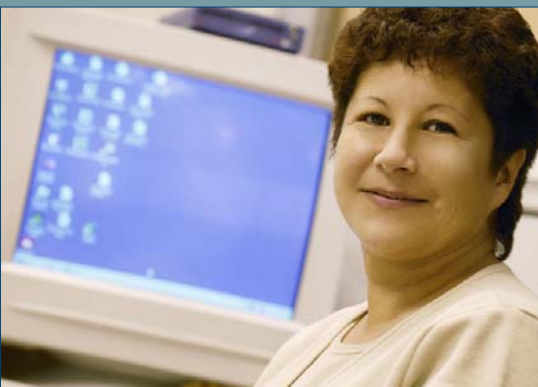
When Rockingham was planning to switch from Siemens Unity to MEDITECH Client/Server 5.6, the staff knew that it would need a powerful scripting tool to supplement MEDITECH processing in several areas. After reviewing several scripting tools, Rockingham selected Boston WorkStation™, in large part due to its friendly look-and-feel and its flexibility.

Boston WorkStation is a workflow automation and integration technology that allows health-care organizations to automate common tasks throughout the organization. Boston Software Systems worked closely with Rockingham, which was one of three MEDITECH 5.6 and 6.0 beta sites testing the new versions.

“When we started the training process, Boston Software System’s staff realized that MEDITECH 5.6 was different from other Client/Server versions. We needed Boston WorkStation to recode interface and integration connections with MEDITECH,” says Joseph Beahm, financial and administrative systems manager at Rockingham Memorial Hospital.

Boston WorkStation extends the reliable connection capabilities of Boston WorkStation to new MEDITECH Client/Server 5.6 and 6.0 versions. MEDITECH had completely redesigned these new versions, making any previously written scripts unusable. The versions also lacked the scripting application programming interface (API) found in previous versions of MEDITECH, making it impossible for scripting tools that connect to MEDITECH via these APIs to function.

One of the first projects the Rockingham IS staff took on with Boston WorkStation was moving all the user account information into MEDITECH. They also use Boston WorkStation also to build devices, such as printers and PCs, into the new system, automate time-consuming dictionary entry and update pricing models.



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“When we had to convert the Siemens Unity medical record numbers to the MEDITECH format for our picture archiving and communication systems (PACS), the PACS vendor was unable to help in time for the go-live. At the 11th hour, Boston Software Systems helped us build the script, which saved our staff the pain of manually entering the record numbers – which would have taken days – and allowed our radiology physicians access to PACS information immediately. Boston WorkStation has shown its value in a very short time. Boston Software Systems is committed to making it work easily and reliably with this challenging new version of MEDITECH.”

For more ideas on using Boston WorkStation in your facility, visit www.bostonworkstation.com or call 866 653 5105 directly.

