

Kochi Medical School Hospital improves care quality



IBM delivers a mobile computing solution and desktop cloud services to drive productivity

Overview

Mobile staff

To improve care quality, medical staff productivity and operating costs, Kochi Medical School Hospital wanted to update its mobile computing solution.

Flexible platform

IBM® Global Technology Services® – Integrated Technology Services deployed a solution that uses the IBM Smart Business Desktop Cloud platform.

Cost-effective solution

The school cut per-device costs while establishing a flexible, security-rich mobile computing environment.

Solution components

Services

- IBM® Global Business Services®
- IBM Global Technology Services® – Integrated Technology Services
- IBM Mobile Enterprise Services
- IBM Smart Business Desktop Cloud

Kochi Medical School Hospital operates as a branch of the prestigious Kochi University. Founded in 1981, the 600-bed medical center seeks to deliver comprehensive, hands-on medical training to students while offering emergency and long-term treatment services to the roughly 80 million citizens of the Kochi prefecture of Japan.

Challenge

Kochi Medical School Hospital was looking to improve patient record availability by making the data readily accessible to users throughout the facility. Previously, the hospital had deployed a solution for its medical staff members that provided them with custom-made, handheld devices able to access limited medical systems. In light of the expense of these devices, employees were forced to share equipment, because the organization could not afford a unit for each user.

Upkeep of these aging devices was also proving to be costly. On average, the organization spent USD300 for each repair; therefore, equipment was sometimes decommissioned rather than replaced. In addition, these devices were highly specialized, relying on proprietary operating systems that limited the types of medical applications the hospital could use. Hoping to boost productivity and free up more time to treat patients, the hospital sought a solution that would provide each employee with a device.



“We wanted to improve the productivity for our medical staff to access patient records by mobile device at any time, at any place in our hospital. IBM made that happen cost-effectively and without compromising the security of patient records.”

—Yoshiyasu Okuhara, professor and director, Center of Medical Information Science,
Kochi Medical School Hospital

Solution

Only IBM® Global Technology Services® – Integrated Technology Services delivered a proposal that met Kochi Medical School Hospital’s financial and scheduling requirements. As part of an IBM Mobile Enterprise Services solution, IBM worked with the training hospital to restructure its architecture to take advantage of iPod touch devices from Apple Inc. These new devices offer a more cost-effective solution with a price point below the average repair costs of the previous equipment, and the flexible Apple iOS operating platform supports a broader range of applications. Currently, the school uses approximately 600 iPod touch devices to collaborate and help improve care and outcomes for patients.

At the same time, the Integrated Technology Services team updated the organization’s back-end architecture, migrating the school’s existing medical applications and patient record systems to the IBM Smart Business Desktop Cloud. The IBM cloud solution, specifically designed to support mobile application access, provides a security-rich environment. In addition, IBM Global Business Services® worked with Kochi Medical School Hospital to design new, iPod-enabled interfaces for various medical systems.

Benefits

- Improves patient care coordination and increases staff productivity with simpler access to medical systems and data
- Manages more mobile devices at a lower per-device cost, helping the hospital reduce maintenance and support costs
- Establishes a flexible, security-rich environment that helps maintain the confidentiality of medical information

For more information

To learn more about IBM Smart Business Desktop Cloud and IBM Mobile Enterprise Services, please contact your IBM marketing representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit the following website: ibm.com/services



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