



WellStar Douglas Hospital, Douglasville, Georgia

The Challenge

WellStar Health System is the largest not-for-profit health organization in the state of Georgia. One of only 42 health systems that has earned JCAHO accreditation, two of WellStar's 11 facilities have been named to the Top 100 Hospitals in the Nation. WellStar, which captures more than 600,000 studies annually, over a three and a half year period, evolved its radiology department from an analog to a digital environment. The cost of locating, filing, and copying, films and reports, got out of control for WellStar's facilities. In order to distribute patient data to a large physician network, adopting digital technology was their only answer.

"Our previous system took too long to burn CDs (8 to 10 min) and we had to put labels on by hand" said Becky Hayslett, Medical Imaging Coordinator and PACS Administrator for WellStar. "The CDs were not able to play on all computer systems and had an embedded disclaimer on them. They didn't look very professional at all. I needed to find a way to distribute discs faster. That is when I heard about the solution available through Data Distributing. We evaluated many vendors. The solutions line from Data Distributing was the best choice."

The Solution

Data Distributing's network of dedicated professionals worked with Becky to evaluate WellStar's current PACS architecture and customized a configuration for each of WellStar's 11 individual facilities. The DICOM Media Station, part of the essentials line of digital solutions, was the perfect fit and was flexible enough to efficiently address different volumes and price points. The DICOM Media Station, enables the staff at WellStar, to automate the query, import, and archive studies from any of the 11 WellStar facilities and burn a copy of images, reports and other critical data to CD, from any of those locations.

The Outcome

"We have cut the time to process a CD from 10 minutes into just a few minutes. More importantly we estimate we will save \$1,000,000 annually in the cost of film, labor, storage and distributing costs. That's money we can spend on improving patient care" Hayslett confirmed.

Robert Mandler, Executive Director, Medical Imaging & Radiology of WellStar Health Systems commented, "It took an excessive amount of time to burn a disc from the PACS and we were unsuccessful finding a PACS vendor that provided a CD burning solution. Becky found Data Distributing and brought their solution to my attention. There is a high level of satisfaction from



Robert Mandler, Exec. Dir. Med. Imaging & Radiology

our staff. The system is very user friendly and it is very easy to use. We are able to modify the presentation and that has been very helpful to introduce this concept to our Physicians who may not have been prepared for the change"

The physicians and staff of the WellStar System have been impressed with the image quality and ease of use of the CD interface. Patients of WellStar love the portability and personalization on the disc.

"Our productivity has definitely gone up, our training is easier and only takes 30 minutes. That's even a leisure estimate!" Ms. Hayslett commented.

Regarding Data Distributing...

Data Distributing embodies a small company culture that understands the importance of personalized care and an immediate return on investment. Their razor sharp focus, to help facilities of all sizes improve workflow, save time, and ensure HIPAA compliance, is unsurpassed.

Founded in 1984, Data Distributing's mission is to create customized solutions that increase profitability and productivity and make their deployment, as simple and worry free as possible.

"We received excellent service and even when there were challenges, Data Distributing took care of them," Mr. Mandler commented. "They responded immediately to our requests, customized the system for us and it has worked out great."

Ms. Hayslett continued, "Data Distributing has been very supportive and has filtered through all of our challenges. There was some concern with using a company out of state, but Data Distributing has provided everything they said they would and have thoroughly supported us. I am very pleased with the whole experience," "The Media Station is the best thing we could have chosen."