

Norwegian Customer Embraces the New Windows-Based PACS



Vestre Viken Hospital, Norway

Annar Engell's job is to manage CARESTREAM Vue RIS/PACS in multiple hospitals that are part of Sykehuspartner. Each site is connected with the main archive in Oslo.

The healthcare system recently converted from Carestream's UNIX-based PACS to the company's newest PACS platform, which is based on Windows* running on platforms based on Intel® Xeon® processors, and includes virtualized servers. "We are very pleased with the new platform because we are saving both time and money while simultaneously gaining improved performance. All our sites are now running on virtual servers. Images are loading faster and it's much easier for us to manage multiple sites in our system," Engell reports.

With the previous UNIX platform, Engell said that only one or two people in the large organization had the training needed to make changes to server processes. He notes that now it's easy for managers to review server processes and expand system capabilities as needed.

The migration was conducted in stages. Three hospitals were involved. During the conversion there was no downtime, according to Engell. "Data was stored and moved without any disruption to normal processes. Users didn't notice which server they were on until we changed one site to the Windows-based PACS. Then all the other sites wanted to convert as well."

"Our healthcare system embraces the use of virtualization whenever possible. Our current Windows and Intel Xeon processor-based PACS configuration is a virtualized service that offers greater flexibility as well as reduced costs and higher productivity than our previous UNIX-based PACS," he said.

"People say that UNIX is stable but we believe this Windows and Intel Xeon processor-based platform is more stable. For us, there is no advantage at all to staying with a UNIX environment," Engell reports.



Annar Engell, PACS Administrator, Sykehuspartner, Norway

Vestre Viken Hospital provides hospital and special healthcare services for 465,000 people across 26 municipalities.

* Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.