

Holbert Systems/Medi-Clinic Operational Efficiency

Case Study



Wavetrend Channel Partner

Holbert Systems is a South-African based systems integrator specialising in the development of technology-based solutions to optimise and streamline business processes. Since inception, the company has been involved in projects across a diverse range of industries including: healthcare, logistics, supply chain, finance, security and mining.

Business Challenge

An established leader in the private hospital industry in South Africa and Namibia with a market share of approximately 25%, Medi-Clinic was seeking a way of accurately monitoring the time spent by patients in its operating theatres. They required a system that could run with limited human intervention, was able to interface directly with the hospital's own computer network and be able to automate the billing process. The objective of implementing the system was to improve the utilisation of resources, raise hospital efficiency, provide an audit trail of operating theatre usage and thus increase revenue.

Solution

Working within stringent installation criteria that Medi-Clinic maintains for its operating theatres, Holbert Systems ran a pilot scheme in six hospitals delivering a highly functional system that included a recycling facility for the RFID Tags. By attaching a Wavetrend Active RFID Tag to the patient's bed, installing a Wavetrend RFID Reader in each theatre and a data buffer per theatre complex, a precise record of the time spent by each patient in theatre could be recorded. The

Wavetrend Active RFID Tag data is interpreted by the Holbert Systems' server application which in turn is interfaced to the hospital's own information systems. Attaching the Tag to the bed as opposed to the patient eliminated the risk of it being obscured by the patient's body.

Validating time spent in the operating theatre has significantly improved payment terms with insurance companies. Initial figures show that this benefit, along with the greater operational efficiency within the pilot hospitals, provides an ROI in less than 12 months.

Holbert Systems is currently in a planning phase to undertake a full and more advanced roll-out to the majority of the Medi-Clinic hospital theatre complexes within the group. There are currently in excess of 46 Medi-Clinic hospitals country-wide. Holbert Systems, assisted by Wavetrend, has also been commissioned to explore the possibilities of using RFID Tags to track both key items of equipment and members of staff to improve hospital efficiency.

Results

- A precise record of the time spent by each patient in theatre is created
 - Real-time accurate patient visibility
- Accurate and auditable billing
 - Reduced payment times from insurance companies
- Estimated ROI in less than 12 months.

Customer Comments

"This system provides benefits to both the patients and the funders, since the theatre times produced are accurate and thus indisputable. Medi-Clinic looks forward to the continued participation of Wavetrend Technologies and the interaction of Holbert Systems in order to achieve our technological expectations."

- Deon van Blommestein
Manager of Patient Administration, Medi-Clinic

