



# INVOLVED

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## Mountainside Hospital: Meeting PACS Challenges with INFINITT

Mountainside Hospital is a 365-bed acute-care facility that has served Montclair, NJ and surrounding communities since 1891. Mountainside offers cardiovascular, orthopedic, women's health, wound care and other specialized services, and has a full-service radiology department performing an average of 90,000 procedures per year.



When James Cucco, Radiology Manager, talks about the PACS program at Mountainside, he emphasizes that this was a non-traditional PACS acquisition. To begin with, the hospital was going through a transition of ownership, from Atlantic Health System to Merit Health Systems, and the radiology group they would be going forward with had not yet been identified.

To top that off, Cucco, who had been with Mountainside less than six months, learned of the funding for the PACS in April of 2007, on the condition that a purchase order would be cut by the end of May.

They had to review six PACS proposals, and find a system that could work with their network infrastructure. Budget was a factor, but there were other criteria that were equally important in vendor selection. They knew they wanted to own the system, not go with a pay-per-procedure financial model. Having limited IT resources, they knew they needed to choose a system that did not require a lot of support. They also knew

they wanted a web-based system. And, they knew they needed to go with a vendor they could trust.

"The trust factor was a key issue," said Cucco. "When we contracted with INFINITT, we had to stipulate that we had not yet approved the system configuration." It turned out that INFINITT was very, very flexible.

"INFINITT was willing to consider - and in most cases facilitate - anything that was necessary to make the project a success."

- James Cucco, Radiology Manager  
Mountainside Hospital

And success it is. "The system is very stable, very user-friendly; the staff adapted to it quickly," said Cucco, "and the referring physicians love having web-access."

The radiology group that came in liked the INFINITT PACS so much they also chose it for their imaging center. And now, INFINITT is a finalist for a new integrated PACS system at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Paterson, NJ, where the radiology group also works.

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## **INFINITT now offers off-site DR options for existing PACS customers**

Disaster Recovery (DR) planning is an essential part of the conversion to electronic imaging. You can switch from viewing films on alternators to viewing softcopy images on workstations, but you will not be able to eliminate film if you do not also provide for several levels of redundant, retrievable storage. And in these days of online, anytime, anywhere access to images, no one considers tapes on a shelf to be a state-of-the-art disaster recovery option.



INFINITT has maintained its own data center for years now, archiving multiple copies of images for INFINITT *Smart-NET* customers. The INFINITT data center uses the most advanced blade server and virtualization technology and, with this in place, can extend

the DR Service option to customers who want an additional, off-site copy of their patients' images with a fully replicated database for the very fastest method of restoring data in case of a total catastrophic disaster.

INFINITT *Smart-Net* DR Option 1 will keep a synchronized copy of your archived images along with a copy of the entire database. In case of total disaster at the medical facility, INFINITT North America will use these copies to construct a replacement system within a few days. This is a dramatic improvement compared to traditional tape restorations.

With Option 2, INFINITT *Smart-Net* DR maintains a duplicate system, including hardware and software, synchronized with the system at the customer's site. In case of a complete disaster this system can be relocated to the customer's site, returning them to service in the quickest possible way.

Both options enable the customer to access their images or data online from the INFINITT North America Data Center within hours of a complete disaster. *Please contact your INFINITT North America sales representative to learn about all the INFINITT Smart-Net options.*

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## **The Transition to Digital Imaging at Orthopedic Associates Of The Greater Lehigh Valley**

Orthopedic Associates Of The Greater Lehigh Valley (OAGLV) is an orthopedic practice with offices in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. OAGLV first considered a PACS purchase in October 2005 when they were planning the opening of a new office for the New Jersey location, and wanted the new facility to be both 'filmless' and 'paperless'. Their orthopedic surgeons were already using PACS at two area hospitals, so they knew many of the benefits.

The key issues for selecting a PACS vendor were total cost of ownership, interoperability with their EMR and billing systems, and ability to view prior studies for comparison with new images. The INFINITT PACS that had been implemented at nearby Warren Hospital met all these requirements, but it wasn't until INFINITT proposed an Application Service Provider (ASP) PACS solution that the practice felt they could move ahead with the implementation.

INFINITT's hosted PACS offering allowed OAGLV to purchase the two CR units they needed, and acquire state-of-the-art, web-based PACS technology at a fixed monthly



**Orthopedic Associates of the Greater Lehigh Valley occupies 6000 square feet of the Hillcrest Professional Plaza.**

fee so their costs would be predictable. And, with INFINITT housing and maintaining the archive and servers, OAGLV knew that maintenance and support would be manageable.

They implemented CR first, and a technologist who had previous experience with CR was chosen to train the other technologists. Three months later they went live with the PACS and were able to eliminate the mess and the costs associated with film and processing within a two week period. They now view CR images almost instantaneously, and can load other digital images that are brought to them on CD.

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## Orthopaedic Surgeons Convene in Las Vegas

The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) convened in Las Vegas last month, drawing more than 32,000 attendees, despite the economic downturn. INFINITT sent Bob Blake, Jim Zongilla, Richard Conner, and Robert Roselli who joined forces with EP Radiological and Medical Imaging Systems, Infinit's value-added resellers.



There were educational sessions on joint replacement, hip resurfacing and other orthopaedic procedures, and an exhibit floor filled with device manufacturers and technical exhibits.

"We saw a high level of interest in digital imaging," said James Zongilla, Executive Account Representative for INFINITT. "The physicians seem to be realizing it's more affordable now, and it's the way to go."

Orthopedists also came to the booth for information on our digital templating software and INFINITT *Smart-NET*, our hosted PACS solution that works well in orthopedic offices.

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## Upcoming Trade Shows

· **April 4-8, 2009** - INFINITT returns to Chicago, IL

for the Healthcare Information Management

Systems Society (HIMSS) Annual Meeting,

Booth #8038

· **May 3- 6, 2009** -INFINITT will be in Austin, TX

for the American Association of Orthopaedic

Executives (AAOE) Annual Conference, Booth #113.



**Robert Rosselli,**  
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