

Edward Hospital

Illinois Hospital Finds Big Benefits in a Small Package



Edward Hospital serves the northeastern communities in Illinois. The Edward campus is comprised of the Hospital, Health & Fitness Center, Cardiovascular Institute, Healthcare Centers (off-campus medical facilities), Cancer Center, and Psychiatric Health Facility.

The Challenge

With 50,000 annual emergency room visits and occupancy nearing 90%, it is vital for Edward Hospital to be equipped with technology that will permit employees to focus on offering high-quality patient care. The 24-hour hospital wanted an IT system that maximized user availability by minimizing the time required to

resolve hardware issues and perform maintenance.

In addition, crowded conditions within the hospital pods constrained the physicians' and nurses' access to vital patient information. Edward Hospital needed to increase its number of work stations without encroaching on patient care space. With high traffic through these shared work stations, efficient utilization of space is also a requirement. The hospital wanted to reduce clutter and improve ergonomics within the shared space to improve the work environment.

The Solution

After assessing its employees' computing needs, Edward Hospital began to look for a new system that offered the same functionality of a traditional PC but was also capable of optimizing space utilization. The hospital turned to ClearCube Technology to meet these needs.

The ClearCube solution removes the PC from the desk, condenses it into an Intel®-based PC Blade form-factor, and rack-mounts it in a centralized data center. All that remains in the work area are the peripherals (monitor, keyboard, mouse) and a paperback book-sized device called a ClearCube User Port that supports cable, fiber or Ethernet connectivity to the allocated PC Blade.

Utilizing the ClearCube Management Suite (CMS), a software suite of powerful management tools, IT administrators can remotely manage the entire ClearCube deployment from anywhere in the world.

The Benefit

The primary benefit derived from the ClearCube solution was the ability to double the number of workstations without reducing the availability of floor space dedicated to patient care. The hospital was able to increase its density by integrating ClearCube User Ports with foldable wall units directly in the patient care setting. Nurses and physicians now have increased access to patient data at the point of care.

"We were able to install about 12 more computers on every floor – more than doubling what staff currently had – without taking away any space for patient care or cramming staff into a pod," says Laura Bagus, Manager of Technical Services & Help Desk.

As a result of ClearCube, employee work environments have substantially improved. Moving PCs from the pod environment into a centralized location reduced clutter in the training facility. In addition to centralizing the PC Blades, IT also recessed flat screen monitors in desks to provide users with more desktop space. Nurses and physicians now have both cleaner and more ergonomic work and training areas, resulting in increased productivity and employee satisfaction.

Because ClearCube technology houses all PC Blades in a central location, IT efficiency has drastically improved. The hardware is better protected from user wear and tear, reducing system failures. Also, IT utilizes the ClearCube Management Suite (CMS) to improve response time in system failure situations. Within an 8-Blade Cage, a "hot spare" Blade is held in reserve, available in time of need. As a result, it takes five minutes for IT to reallocate a user to a "hot spare" PC Blade.

OVERVIEW

► The Challenge

Equip a 24-hour hospital with a highly available and space-efficient IT system

► The Solution

Deploy ClearCube PC Blades and User Ports in patient care settings, nurses' stations, doctors' offices and training areas

► The Benefit

A smaller footprint, more secure, 99.9% available IT system