



ABC Medical Center



Location

Mexico City, Mexico

Industry Vertical

ABC Medical Center is the leading not-for-profit medical center in Mexico, dedicated to clinical health care of the highest standards with strong bases in education and research.

Scope

Scope of project was to implement wireless LAN (WLAN) for OB/GYN & Pediatrics Center at ABC's Santa Fé campus. The system was designed to enable multiple wireless healthcare diagnostic applications; the immediate goal was to support an electronic note-taking application that would allow patient notes to be reviewed and transmitted by care providers in real-time.

Challenges

The WLAN had to be rapidly deployed without interrupting normal hospital operations. As the system would support mission-critical applications, it couldn't experience capacity problems or coverage gaps. At the same time, environment was shared with electronic primary care equipment so WLAN needed to be operationally flexible and highly resilient to RF interference to avoid impacting healthcare mission.

Another prerequisite was that the WLAN be "future-proofed" as ABC Medical Center plans to use it to deploy RFID and PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System) applications, as well as having the ability to seamlessly scale to support multiple low-power wireless clients such as handhelds and WiFi phones. A further requirement was to provide Internet connectivity for staff and visitors.

Why Extricom ?

Extricom's multi-layer "Channel Blanket" architecture allows ABC Medical Center to move potentially conflicting traffic types onto separate networks, ensuring that mission-critical application traffic is not impacted by low-priority data transfers. "A major reason we went with Extricom was flexibility," declared ABC's IT Infrastructure Coordinator, Adriana Olmos. "From a single infrastructure, any application can be supported without worrying about performance or capacity issues."

Extricom's ease-of-use and lowest total cost of ownership were also a significant factor in ABC's choice of the system. Its uncomplicated configuration process and straightforward maintenance mean that wireless expertise is not required, and IT staff with basic networking skillsets can achieve optimal system performance. The high technological quality of the Extricom solution means that it will continue to add value for years to come.

Implementation Summary

The WLAN deployment was performed by Interexport México, a nationally established VAR. System installation was easily accomplished in three working days following a basic site survey. Alejandro Siri of Interexport summarized its cost-effectiveness as follows, "Extricom's simplicity of implementation and maintenance will go a long way towards helping our customers reduce budget demands while meeting technologically challenging goals for their Wi-Fi system."

Current Status and Next Stages

Extricom system is fully operational at ABC Medical Center's OBGYN & Pediatrics Center, multiplying staff productivity and improving quality of patient care. ABC is planning to extend the WLAN to additional floors of the facility, as well as to a new building that will be constructed in 2009.

What the Customer is Saying

"We carefully reviewed all the WLAN offerings on the market, looking for the one that would best fit our current operational needs and which would be easy to update to meet future requirements. We basically needed something that would be easy to use right now and simple to scale tomorrow. That technology is Extricom."

*Luis Rubi
IT Director
ABC Medical Center*