

CASE STUDY

Medical Center Optimizes Cash and Increases Efficiencies

CHALLENGE

Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center planned to transition their entire radiology department from Computed Radiology (CR) to Digital Radiology (DR) in preparation for their new hospital construction opening in December 2009. The project presented several challenges for the staff:

- **Relocating equipment**, including digital mammography equipment, to the new hospital site on a very tight schedule
- **Integrating radiographic equipment** into their complex ER resuscitation room and install a new stereotatic biopsy room
- **Applications training** for the entire radiology staff

SOLUTION

AXS Imaging worked very closely with key staff to create a solution that would best meet the new department's imaging needs. AXS provided elaborate electronic CAD drawings of each room for use by construction personnel and room design teams, and attended various construction meetings over a two-year period. Throughout the process, AXS provided continuous progress updates to administrative directors and key personnel.

Several essential imaging products were provided to allow for improved patient care and cost-effectiveness. The custom installation included a unique DR application in the ER department resuscitation room. AXS also upgraded the existing AMX portable to DR.

A few specific products within the AXS solution were:

- **Canon DR technology** for speed and reliability
- **Shimadzu Medical System** for high performance imaging and tomography
- **Shimadzu RadSpeed systems** with integrated Canon technology
- **Shimadzu SonialVision** enabling the elevation of a 500 lb. patient in a fluoroscopy room



COMPANY DETAILS

- Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center
- Mishawaka, Indiana
- \$355,000,000 new hospital
- Seven radiographic rooms

RESULTS

AXS's customized training for technologists enabled the transition to flow smoothly.

Saint Joseph experienced immediate benefits from AXS's imaging solution. Images could be provided instantly on McKesson PACS to entire hospital staff and could be sent "on-the-fly" in the ICU using the new DR portables. Redundant rooms were eliminated as a result of faster images and more efficient equipment. Patient safety and comfort increased due to faster room turnaround time. Their mammographic biopsy images became more accurate, requiring fewer repeated exams. They are also able to handle larger bariatric patients in their fluoroscopy room.

Because of the AXS solution, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center can more easily upgrade to better and faster DR technologies when they become available.