

CASE STUDY

Emergency Department Increases Efficiencies with Progressive Imaging Solution

CHALLENGE

St. Vincent Northeast recently opened the first free-standing Emergency Department in Indiana. One of their biggest challenges was to create an entire digital imaging department without using Computed Radiography. In the past, imaging vendors would have had to install both a CR system as well as a DR system. But in an Emergency Department, speed of imaging is vitally important and digital technology was of utmost importance as well as keeping costs to a minimum.



FACILITY DETAILS

- St. Vincent Northeast
- Fishers, Indiana
- Free Standing ED/Medical Office Building

SOLUTION

AXS Imaging was able to meet the needs of St. Vincent Northeast by providing the Canon Medical Systems Handheld DR Sensors. A comprehensive solution of two digital portables, an R/F system with a handheld sensor and a two-plate DR radiography room was installed. By using this progressive type of DR, the need for CR technology was eliminated.

"The use of these portables has not only saved the technologist time and increased productivity, but has given us a unique ability to offer a service to a group of physicians by providing their imaging needs for their patients in the office. SVMCNE has never looked back on the decision to make this facility completely digital."

Alison Boerner, RT(R), RDMS

Manager Medical Imaging
St. Vincent Medical Center Northeast

RESULTS

An important result of this solution allowed St. Vincent Northeast to increase efficiencies through a single seamless technology system within their Emergency Room. Since the installation in October of 2008, the facility has been running well and St. Vincent Northeast is thrilled to not have to use CR. And using the same Canon DR components on every digital modality also allows the technologists to have user-friendly interfaces throughout the entire department further contributing to the efficiency of staff and resources.

An additional advantage was discovered post-installation when an orthopedic office wanted to move into the building. St. Vincent Northeast had not anticipated this addition, so no plan was in place to provide for an x-ray room. Because they had two digital portables, they were able to take a portable to the patient directly in the orthopedic office and do the x-ray there. They experienced significant cost-savings because they did not have to install another room or purchase additional imaging products.