

Rogan Medical Systems

Putting CD\DVD Technology to Work Within the Medical Community



Rogan Medical Systems, founded in 1987 and headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is a manufacturer of PACS (Picture Archiving and communication System), a family of products designed to digitize medical images for easy accessibility, display and manipulation by medical professionals. Images can be copied, deleted, edited, displayed and archived in compressed form. With Rogan's PACs, the mode of transferring or interchanging medical images within a hospital or to other locations becomes easier and more secure, as does the method for permanently archiving those images. Instead of printing medical images on film, hospitals and radiology centers can house those images in a complex, highly fail-safe server, which operates on a fast network. Radiologists and physicians never touch the films, preserving their integrity and greatly decreasing the chances for loss.

Using a PACs, a doctor can retrieve an image quickly, view multiple images simultaneously on a high-resolution screen and even transfer that image, via modem, to another doctor at another location. Physicians can also annotate images with text or mark them with symbols to clearly illustrate the characteristics of the pathology under study. With a CD\DVD-RAM function, such manipulation can be done easily numerous times without destroying the clarity and integrity of the original image.

The medical profession has come to rely CD-R and CD-ROM functions that allow the medical community to collect, digitize, manipulate and share millions of images. CD\DVD technology means space and cost savings. CD\DVD libraries save space over their traditional film-based counterparts. The images in CD\DVD libraries are more secure, safer from the ravages of time. With the current emphasis on reducing health-care costs, CD\DVD technology is a step in that direction. Traditional film costs can be exorbitant, and much time is spent locating misplaced images or redoing lost films, thereby decreasing overall productivity. Hospitals can't bill patients without films, billing procedures can also be held up when a radiology department is film-dependent.

Rogan Medical partnered with NSM library to deliver fast, dependable image retrieval and communication systems to its clients. Using the NSM Mercury 20, Mercury 31 and the Mercury 40 Rogan's PACs can collect, organize and archive the medical images of an entire hospital in a compact network that connects the modalities of CT, MIR, ultrasound and other tests to a server that transmits the images to high-resolutions workstations around the hospital, at remote locations or in the physician's home.

An NSM library was ideal for Rogan's PACs because of its archiving capacity. One chest X-ray, for example, contains data equivalent to 450, two to three page business letters. That's a huge file, and every patient usually has two or three X-rays taken to ensure a complete view. "You used to be able to fill up a file room with one or two years worth of films," says Morales. "With an NSM solution, you can fit years and years worth of films in a stack of CDs." And that ability to archive and locate old films allows physicians, especially researchers, to deliver superior, cost-effective care to



their patients. "The archiving capability of CD technology is amazing and so important, because if you lose your medical archive, you're in a world of hurt," Morales adds.

Healthcare and Medical facilities utilizing CD\DVD libraries for diagnostic images and patient record management include: Intermountain Health Care, DeKalb Genetics, Siemens Medical Systems, Clinical Pathology Laboratories, Kodak Health, Imnet, Temple University Hospital, and Bellin Memorial Hospital.