

Health Sector News

Wandsworth and Airwave answer call

Healthcare technology and IP communications specialist, The Wandsworth Group, and critical voice and data communications company, Airwave Healthcare, showed for the first time at Healthcare Estates 2012 a system they say seamlessly integrates the former's IPiN nurse call system and the latter's patient entertainment hospital televisions to enable patients to quickly send medical or other staff anywhere within a healthcare facility non-urgent messages via portable handsets.

The 'IPiN Everywhere' system harnesses the TCP/IP technology of Wandsworth's IPiN nurse call system – which is designed to be easily reconfigurable to adapt to a hospital's changing needs, and to allow connection to other bedhead equipment. Patients can send a variety of non-urgent (although the system can be tailored to allow transmission of more urgent messages) messages to particular staff via a colour touchscreen interface developed, initially, for Airwave's 32 in medical grade television sets. They can, for instance, let nurses know that they need to visit the

toilet, or require their room temperature adjusted, or inform estates personnel that, for example, their television remote control is not working, or request particular meals. Nurses, clinicians, and other staff users, wear a unique user ID locator badge, and receive calls on portable Android handsets. By using a purpose-designed 'app' on the handset, they can identify the call's nature, the patient, the location, and the degree of urgency. The system can also be set up so that certain levels and 'types' of staff – from cardiologists to catering teams – only receive certain calls.

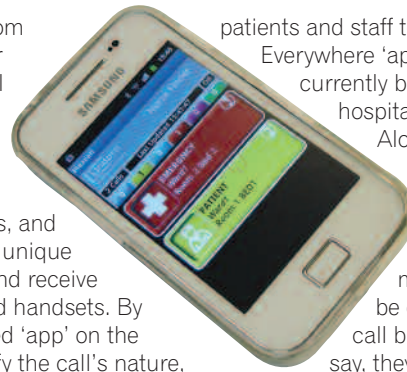
James Woodfield, sales and marketing co-ordinator at The Wandsworth Group, explained, on a joint Wandsworth/Airwave stand at Healthcare Estates 2012, that the technology is seen as an 'adjunct' to existing nurse call equipment, and 'will not interfere with it'. He said: "We have worked closely with Airwave to develop a system that is easy to install, and simple for

patients and staff to use. The IPiN Everywhere 'app' is unique, and is currently being rolled out across hospital sites in Denmark.

Alongside allowing patients to locate and, if the system is voice-equipped, speak to a staff member, patients can be given their own nurse call button so that, when, say, they visit the bathroom, they can still contact staff."

Calls are simultaneously logged separately from other nurse calls both at the nurses' station, and on the healthcare facility's own data logging system, and the staff member responding can press a button to confirm their attendance.

James Woodfield added: "The system's flexibility is such that there are numerous potential future add-ons. We developed the software in-house, and, while the 'app' is currently only available for Android handsets, there are plans to develop apps for other platforms."



Cover Story

Rada supplies world-leading cancer centre

Rada, the commercial showering and washroom control specialist, has supplied a range of its healthcare-approved products for use in the renovation and refurbishment of pioneering cancer centre, The Christie, in Manchester.

Rada Sense and Rada ACU concealed digital mixing valves and complementing showers, basins, and spouts, have been installed within a number of wards, clinics, an operating theatre, and general areas, on the centre's main site over the past two and a half years – including the new day case chemotherapy suite – as part of The Christie's ongoing commitment to deliver the very best facilities for cancer patients and their families.

Rada's Buildcert TMV3-approved Rada Sense concealed digital mixing valve range can be used across washbasin, bath, single and dual shower units to

provide non-touch flow and temperature control. It offers healthcare users the flexibility to programme maximum, minimum and default temperatures to individual requirements and meets L8 compliance requirements thanks to tools such as duty flush and supervised thermal disinfection applications. Activity can be logged and downloaded to a PDA or hand-held PC and stored centrally.

Specifically created for healthcare washbasins, Rada Acu concealed digital mixing valves have been fitted within wall-mounted panels at The Christie, enabling users to start and stop water flow via an infra-red non-touch spout, and giving ready access for servicing from the front, without removal of the panel.

With many of the same features as Rada Sense, Rada Acu is easy to clean. The Buildcert TMV3-approved product is fully compliant with NHS Best Practice Guide 0.6.



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Queen's Award for BPR Medical

BPR Medical, a specialist medical gas design engineering company that claims to be the UK's fastest-growing independent medical gas product manufacturer, has received the Queen's Award for Enterprise – Innovation 2012 for its 'revolutionary' Firesafe product range, which prevents the spread of oxygen-related fires.

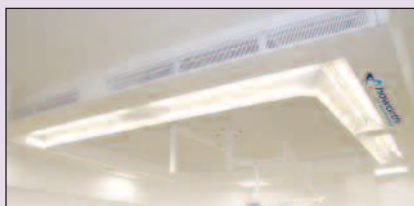
The range includes flowmeters, nozzles, and cannula valves.

The company said: "Oxygen use in healthcare establishments has the potential to greatly accelerate the spread and scale of fires. Firesafe has already

helped saved many lives around the world, and is now mandatory for homecare installations in the UK and Germany."

BPR's CEO, Richard Radford, added: "We are thrilled to win this award, which underscores our commitment to innovation, patient safety, and quality. It is testament to the hard work and dedication of all those involved, both in and outside of BPR, that have supported the development of this important safety device."

Pictured left to right are Richard Radford; Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, Sir John Peace, and David Peel, BPR Medical's director of Engineering.



Specially designed canopies

Howorth Air Technology has supplied 16 of its new Screenless Exflow Evolution ultra clean canopies for operating theatres at Bristol's Southmead Hospital (HEJ – August 2012).

The North Bristol NHS Trust had seen screenless theatre canopies elsewhere in Europe, and knew the design offered the 'future-proofing and flexibility of use' it required. When main contractor, Carillion, initially approached Howorth, the company did not offer a screenless option, so it designed one specially.

Howorth explained: "The decision to use screenless canopies was made late in the build programme, so the fact that our design did not require the bulky low-level recirculation ducts of some competitor systems made it particularly attractive. The latter would have meant a very disruptive installation." Installation commenced last month.

The Evolution retains the basic construction of Howorth's Exflow 28 and 32 models, but 'innovative engineering at the air discharge means the system's performance has been recreated, and in many ways improved, without the need for the traditional partial walls, or potentially bulky low level recirculation ducts, remote fans, or chilled water cooling coils'.

Significant savings unlocked

Clinical and non-clinical staff at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT) have come together to deliver a 23 per cent saving, equivalent to over £800,000 per annum, via a large-scale review of how products are sourced, bought, and managed, within the orthopaedic department.

The Trust's Procurement Team, working closely with the clinical director and the department, have made savings 'by building strategic relationships with suppliers to leverage spend, benchmarking prices against national frameworks, and improving stock management' – all part of a wider procurement cost reduction



programme that procurement consultancy, Inverto, has supported the Team in delivering.

Ian Carmichael, clinical director and consultant orthopaedic surgeon, said: "The number of suppliers and items has been reduced, and my team now has a clear picture of the costs of routinely used products."

Richard McIntosh, Inverto's UK MD (pictured), said: "It was clear, in key stakeholder discussions, that there was limited understanding of the impact the way products were being selected and sourced was having on cost per procedure."

Latest app keeps patients on the move safe

Recognising that many patients are being encouraged to exercise as part of their recovery plan while in hospital, Static Systems' latest Fusion-IP 'app' allows patients to move around in safety by giving them the ability to quickly and easily summon help from staff who can accurately locate them in real time.

Ultrasound technology, combined with RF (radio frequency), have helped the company produce a real-time location system that it claims is 'the most advanced such solution available'.

The company said: "Even if, having raised the call by pressing a button mounted on either a wrist band or pendant, the patient moves again, the overdoor lights and tone sounders will follow the individual to their new real-time location, and the call can be reset at the nearest unit. The 'roaming' patient call



app, available as a packaged application for Static Systems' Fusion-IP integrated communications system, adds a new dimension to existing fixed nurse call units. The app is also invaluable for patients with limited mobility, who may find it difficult to reach the nurse call hand unit."

News in brief

Paperless records system is 'Welsh NHS first'

CCube Solutions has been selected by the Aneurin Bevan Health Board to deliver a Trust-wide electronic document and records management system (EDRMS), reportedly the first to be used in the Welsh NHS. The Health Board provides acute, community, mental, and child health services to 639,000 people in South Wales, representing approximately 21% of the total Welsh population. CCube is supplying the CCube EDRMS software suite, specifically designed to deliver paperless healthcare to the NHS. Its partner, US firm BancTec, is providing support and maintenance services.

Planning isolated power supplies simplified

Brandon Medical, in partnership with Esa Grimmer, a specialist in secure and efficient electrical distribution and control, has launched an isolated power supply (IPS) planning tool. The IPS planner can be used to determine the number, size, and versions, of the IPS system distribution boards for ICU units and operating theatres, and will automatically generate drawings and specifications for all tenders. Brandon Medical can supply 'a wide range of bespoke IPS solutions to meet the requirements for all critical care and life support equipment'.

Hanovia's new sales and marketing director

UV disinfection specialist, Hanovia, has appointed Tim McDougall as its new sales and marketing director. With over 20 years' experience in the water industry, he joins from Veolia Water Solutions and Technologies, a subsidiary of Veolia Environment. At Veolia he held various senior sales and marketing positions in the industrial and municipal water/wastewater treatment sectors. He has a BSc (Hons) Degree in Environmental Science from the University of South West England.

Sweett Group to advise on HK project

Sweett Group, the international property and infrastructure consultancy, has secured a commission to provide cost management services on a 190,000 m² hospital development in Hong Kong. Working on behalf of the Hong Kong Hospital Authority, it will provide a full range of cost management services on the expansion and refurbishment of the United Christian Hospital (UCH), including cost planning, tender preparation and reporting, contract documentation, payment valuations, financial reporting, and potential contractual claims management.

Wise water use rewarded

Barts Health NHS Trust in London's achievement in reducing its water consumption by over 30 per cent since 2009 at The Royal London Hospital, the London Chest Hospital, and Barts Hospital, saving 100 million litres in the process, was recognised recently at The Environment Agency and Waterwise bi-annual UK Water Efficiency Awards 2012.

The Trust secured the runner-up award in the Business and Industry Category. Over the past six years, the organisation has audited its water use, and implemented diverse water-saving technologies and systems, including installing leakage detection sensors, and analysing how rainwater is harvested and used across its sites. It was supported by the AquaFund scheme run by water management specialist, ADSM, which provided a grant, consultancy services, site audits, and 'state-of-the-art' water-saving technologies, alongside water data and tariff analysis, bill validation, and ongoing monitoring.

Sheffield double for robust flooring system

Polyflor flooring has been specified and installed at two Sheffield healthcare facilities. Sheffield Central Clinic is benefitting from Polysafe Wood FX Acoustix PUR in Rustic Oak and Pearlazzo PUR in Lilac Bloom, and Mint Crisp installed throughout, while Sheffield Children's Hospital has installed Polysafe Modena PUR in the Aventurine shade in its Accident and Emergency Ward, and chosen Forest FX Acoustix PUR for waiting rooms.

David Garrett, senior project manager at The Children's Hospital, said: "It is vital that our hospital remains welcoming and comfortable for our visitors, while also remaining safe and secure. We chose Polysafe Modena PUR for its high aesthetic appeal, but also for its sustainable slip-resistant properties and full HSE compliance. Modena does not look like a traditional safety floor, but we were assured by the product's status as a Polysafe range. Being a very busy facility



with lots of footfall, we needed to ensure that our floor would stand up to a lot of traffic, and provide underfoot safety, while being easy to clean."

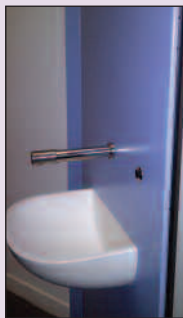
Polysafe Modena PUR fully meets the requirements of EN 13845, the European standard for safety flooring, and achieves a BRE Global Generic A+ environmental rating in major use areas such as healthcare and education. It is also suitable for recycling through the Recofloor Vinyl take-back scheme.

Seamless integrated plumbing

Steri-Spray unveiled at Healthcare Estates 2012 a 'Design and Patent Registered' seamless solid surface integrated plumbing system which it believes will reduce cross-infection risk, and simplify servicing.

Designed in conjunction with Bowman-Riley Architects, the new Seamless Integrated Panel System is 'free from fissures, open joints, or crevices that could allow retention of dirt, dust, and insects', and operates as a hinged door, to reduce maintenance and lifecycle costs.

Steri-Spray said: "With smooth surfaces and no crevices, the system should be easy to clean, and can be quickly and



easily installed. Any damage can easily be repaired on site, while the panel is compatible with a wide range of toilets, basins, urinals etc. It also features an innovative water feed pre-blended water supply, and the panels come in a full range of Corian colours, with anti-ligature and high security options."

Steri-Spray says that, while its 'standard design' seamless IPS panels incorporate a solid surface clinical basin, toilet, or urinal, it offers its full range of Steri-Spray showers and SteriTaps as outlet options, 'complete with in-built TMV 3 anti-scale controls if required'.

Continuing award success for NFC

Hot on the heels of winning the H&V News Award for 'Air Conditioning Product of the Year', Nationwide Filter Company's (NFC) Bacticell air filter cartridge has been crowned Sustainable Product of the Year by *Heating & Ventilating Review*.

The magazine's staff said: "Winning support from all the judges, Nationwide's Bacticell air filter cartridge was praised for its simplicity, creativity, and effectiveness. The filter uses replaceable elements, and includes anti-microbial treatment to eradicate a wide range of microorganisms, and boost the protection to building occupants. The judges particularly liked the fact that the company had taken a relatively simple, everyday piece of technology, and made it better."



NFC, an IHEEM Company Affiliate, added: "A growing number of air filter users have switched over to the Bacticell, as it lasts longer than a conventional bag filter, uses up to 30% less fan energy, generates less waste, uses recycled materials, and, under the new test regime and guidance on the energy classification of air filters, can achieve the highest rating (Class A)."

Nationwide Filter Company has been an approved supplier of air filter products to the NHS under the National Framework Agreement for Air Filter Supplies since 2002.

Staff badge has 'unique feature'

The B4, the newest Wi-Fi staff badge from Ekahau, features an OLED text display and multiple buttons that allow users to receive text messages over Wi-Fi, and to acknowledge receipt or to initiate calls and alarms.

A reportedly 'unique' feature is a built-in alarm switch for staff duress events. The B4 incorporates the latest SOC (system on a chip) Wi-Fi 802.11g radio, CPU, and memory, plus 'several new

changes' in physical design that enhance ruggedness and use. It can be tracked and located by Ekahau RTLS 'over any brand or generation of Wi-Fi network', and is typically able to achieve room level accuracy using Wi-Fi as the location method. For areas with poor Wi-Fi coverage, or where sub-room location is required, it incorporates an IR sensor that works with the Ekahau RTLS



system and the Ekahau LB1 Location Beacons to ensure location accuracy 'to within a few feet'.

The three call buttons and alarm switch are programmable to address different user-initiated calls. Staff can receive calls for help or other requests directly on the LED display on their badge.

A rechargeable battery allows running of the badges with rapid blink rates and real-time text messaging.