

IPCS 9Tracks | Asset management solution

IPCS by 9Solutions

In a large hospital, the surgery ward is a lively centre of activity that buzzes 24 hours a day. The ward has a huge amount of assets travelling from one room to another, such as patient monitors, patient lifts, wheelchairs and vacuum-assisted closure therapy devices.

Problem: It is difficult to locate assets within the wards

The hospital staff wastes a great deal of time searching for assets in the rooms and wards. All of this time taken, means less patient care. In weekly meetings, employees discuss the location of the assets, and this matter is also discussed in e-mail lists. The hospital has had to acquire excess assets to cover the required need meaning unnecessary expense and time wasted.

Solution: IPCS by 9Solutions

An IPCS system was installed in the surgery ward. The system displays, on a graphical user interface, where the various assets are. An Asset Tag identifier is attached to the tracked asset. When a doctor or nurse needs a specific asset, he or she can look for it from the IPCS system and select the nearest free asset. Similarly, when a doctor or nurse takes a particular asset in use, the location of the asset is automatically recorded in the IPCS system servers. The location data is available in real time on the IPCS graphical user interface. With the Touch-to-sign feature of the IPCS system, the staff can reserve assets by touching the Asset Tag of the asset with their own ID Badge Tags. If necessary, the Touch-to-sign feature can also be used to monitor hand hygiene. Hand washes are acknowledged by touching the washbasin identifier with the ID badge tag.

The IPCS system can be installed in wards without interrupting operations. For example, the IPCS Node installation in a patient room takes only a minute. The IPCS system is also safe. Low Bluetooth signal strength of IPCS has no effect on even the most sensitive equipment or humans. IPCS SAR value is less than 0.5% of European limit. The information security is virtually flawless, as only meaningless identification numbers are transferred between the Tags, IPCS Nodes, and the IPCS server.

The system significantly reduces working time that the staff spends searching for the assets. At the same time, the asset utilization increases. The introduction of the system was also considered to be easy. Complex and expensive integrations to the legacy information systems were totally unnecessary. The success of the system has meant that the hospital has already expanded the system twice.

9Solutions Indoor Positioning and Communication Solution (IPCS) is a wireless real-time positioning system that can track the location of people, assets and devices within your facility.

The Benefits of IPCS

- ✔ Quick and easy installation. There were no changes made to the electrical, IT or communications infrastructure of the hospital. The 140 room installation was made by one person in less than two days. The installation of a similar-sized Wi-Fi, IR, or Active RFID system typically takes at least 4 weeks.
- ✔ No local software installations. The web browser will be adequate. The system is optimized for use with a touch screen device. Doctors using, for example, the popular iPad will find it extremely easy to use. The system can be used with any Internet enabled device.
- ✔ IPCS does not use existing IT infrastructure. It does not load infrastructure or add security risks, as there is no physical connection between the systems. Integration with legacy software solutions is easy utilizing IPCS application programming interface.
- ✔ Software as a service. The tag monitoring system is provided as a cloud service. The hospital staff do not have to worry about server operations; employees can concentrate on their work. Since the IPCS system is not installed on local servers, it does not burden the local IT staff.
- ✔ Low maintenance costs. The system self-diagnostic alerts the 9Solutions control room should a fault occur. Problems can often be corrected remotely. If the problem requires an on-site visit, 9Solutions will send an error report to the local partner within 15 minutes after the occurrence of the problem.
- ✔ Low Bluetooth signal strength of IPCS has no effect on even the most sensitive equipment or humans. IPCS SAR value is less than 0.5% of European limit.

Combination of solid Bluetooth technology platform and 9Solutions' strong IPR portfolio has enabled us to build a unique product.

The IPCS sets new RTLS performance standards.
It is built on robust wireless Bluetooth technology, used in over 3 billion devices globally.



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