

VIYU AND PURE STORAGE HELP SPECTOCOR DELIVER CRITICAL CARDIAC MONITORING SERVICES TO CLINICIANS WORLDWIDE

OVERVIEW

New healthcare technologies are being employed every day to improve the lives of patients worldwide. At the leading edge is Spectocor, a provider of remote cardiac monitoring services.

Patients are prescribed devices that monitor their heart activity and report back the results over cellular telephone networks. Spectocor technicians analyze the results and send reports to the clinicians whose patients are being monitored. The company's services are superior to traditional methods because its reports provide more detail, are easier to understand and are more quickly available. The comprehensive online reports are available to clinicians 24/7, 365 days a week anywhere in the world.

Technology plays an absolutely essential role in Spectocor's service. "We're not just a heart-monitoring company. We're a technology company that provides heart-monitoring and other telemedicine services," says Joe Khan, chief information officer of Spectocor. It's Khan's job to ensure that the company employs the latest technologies that will improve both the company's non-stop monitoring services and its bottom line.

PURE STORAGE: MORE THAN JUST FLASH

That's why he switched from disk-based storage to FlashArrays from Pure Storage.

"The 'speeds and feeds' advantages of flash versus disk-based storage are pretty much a given today," Khan says, "but that's not the reason I went with Pure." Rather, Khan was impressed by how Pure has taken a leadership position in flash storage with an architecture that is designed for long-term scalability and on-the-fly upgrades that don't interrupt vital patient monitoring services. For Khan, the benefits of Pure's solution are aligned with his goals of ultra-high reliability, maximum data-retrieval performance and optimal cost-efficiency.

Storage is an essential enabler in Spectocor's IT infrastructure. More than 10,000 devices – such as pocket ECGs, looping event monitors and handheld event monitors – are prescribed to patients. Each device sends real-time data to Spectocor that is analyzed by certified cardiac technicians who prepare web-accessible reports for clinicians. In cases where data from a patient indicates a potentially life threatening issue requiring urgent attention, Spectocor will notify the clinician immediately. "We capture every heartbeat from every patient, and analyze the data in real-time," Khan notes.

Consequently, Spectocor's storage system has to deliver optimal response time, not only when capturing raw patient data, but also during data analysis of several thousand patients concurrently.

DOWNTIME IS NOT AN OPTION

Of foremost importance to Khan is reliability and availability. "We have zero tolerance for system downtime," he says, given the company's critical care commitment to physician partners and clinicians. Pure Storage alleviates any of his concerns in this respect. Upgrades, software changes and system expansion can all be done on the fly, in real time without service interruptions. "This is much different from competing storage systems that have to be taken offline for maintenance," Khan says. "That's a big deal for me."

