



NHS Oldham Saves £41,000 per Year and Decreases its Carbon Footprint by Around 800 Tonnes With NightWatchman

Introduction

NHS Oldham is responsible for making sure everyone in Oldham has access to the health services they need. It is responsible for commissioning healthcare services to 227,000 residents. These services are delivered across a variety of settings by a wide range of clinicians including doctors, consultants, GPs, nurses, pharmacists, opticians and other health care professionals. NHS Oldham is also responsible for providing community services through Oldham Community Health Services.

The Oldham Integrated Care Centre (ICC) in the town centre has been one of the largest primary care facilities delivered by the Local Improvement Finance Trust initiative in the UK. The centre opened in November 2009 and is enabling NHS Oldham to make a step-change in the way healthcare is delivered in the borough, providing services in a local community setting that would traditionally have been delivered in an acute hospital. With more standardised and efficient systems, the Centre will help NHS Oldham improve patient care through better access to medical applications and information.

The challenge

One key challenge was to put technology at the heart of the project. Paul Lyons, head of information management and technology at NHS Oldham, said: "The Oldham Integrated Care Centre brings together a range of frontline medical services in a purpose-built facility and features the latest technologies to improve productivity and patient care. By making better use of information computer technology, we can maximise the time clinicians spend with patients. This will help improve patient outcomes and reduce waste, while making the services operate more effectively."

The executive director of finance, Stephen Sutcliffe, agrees: "Ultimately, any IT solution that allows front line staff to spend more time with patients is a great result and a goal of Oldham IT systems. Moreover, as it is funded by taxpayers, NHS Oldham must also ensure it is answerable for every penny and must look to be more efficient in all areas."

Solutions Overview



Objective

NHS Oldham needed to integrate the latest technologies to improve patient care while reducing costs and ensuring energy-efficiency

Approach

NHS Oldham worked with Computacenter and 1E to deploy NightWatchman on 350 desktops

Solution Summary

- Power and Patch Management incorporating NightWatchman® and WakeUp™

Key Benefits

- NHS Oldham will be able to reduce energy costs by £41,000 in the first year
- Its carbon footprint will reduce by around 800 tonnes per year
- The new system automates the shutdown of desktop computers and enhances the management and distribution of the operating system patches



The solution

Part of the focus on technology was to ensure the Centre was as sustainable and energy-efficient as possible. For that reason Computacenter, NHS Oldham's prime ICT partner, has configured and installed 350 new desktop computers with support from its partner 1E. 1E implemented a combination of market-leading PC power management solution NightWatchman® and Wake-on-LAN availability management solution WakeUp™ for NHS Oldham.

NightWatchman from 1E enforces the shutdown of desktop computers and enhances the management and distribution of operating system patches. As a result, NHS Oldham will be able to reduce energy costs by £41,000 in the first year and decrease its carbon footprint by around 800 tonnes per year.

Computacenter is also introducing the Microsoft SCCM (System Center Configuration Manager), at the Oldham site, which will help it to better manage NHS Oldham's ICT estate. The solution will enable Computacenter to maintain a standard user operating system and deliver desktop software in a more cost-effective manner. 1E software also helps in other ways such as identifying peaks and troughs in energy usage, during busy times of the day for example, allowing NHS Oldham to plan its energy allowances for maximum efficiency.

Stephen Sutcliffe adds: "From a user perspective, there were no issues at all with implementation; One day we weren't using 1E; the next, it was installed and everything was running perfectly. Key benefits have been realised from the outset."

The results

With more standardised and efficient systems delivered by Computacenter and 1E, the care centre will help NHS Oldham improve patient care. The systems are fit for purpose and able to report much more accurately. In particular, the 1E software is delivering value on a daily basis in terms of demonstrating energy savings. The improved IT solutions bring wider benefits too – for example around travel and transport. These IT systems enable better work practice such as home working for instance, which further reduces NHS Oldham's daily carbon footprint.

Chris Price, public sector director at Computacenter, said: "The new Oldham ICC has been set up with technology at the core to drive efficient working practices, which in turn enables healthcare workers to dedicate more resource to serving the community. With increased pressure to cut costs following the Health Secretary's directive in September, it is important that other primary care trusts look at Oldham's approach to technology to understand how they can meet this goal and make significant savings in their budget."

Future plans

The Oldham Integrated Care Centre is exploring new ways to reduce costs while enhancing its sustainability credentials, including looking at bio fuels. The Centre expects to save almost half a million pounds in the coming decade as a result of its 1E deployment. In the longer term the organisation is considering implementing 1E across its entire estate. It is also investigating the potential for integrating its systems and practices with other public sector organisations in the area. This is in the belief that a more efficient, visible and joined up IT practice can not only help public sector bodies reach Government energy targets, but benefit the community on a daily basis.

1E – Empowering Efficient IT

We believe every one of our customers should expect more from their IT. Founded in 1997, 1E pioneered advanced PC power management with the release of ground-breaking solutions like NightWatchman® and WakeUp™. That innovative approach has continued with the development of revolutionary concepts like Useful Work™, Drowsy Server® and Computer Health™ as part of a unique range of industry-leading solutions. Headquartered in London and New York and with 14 million licenses deployed world-wide, over 1100 organisations in 42 countries have trusted us to help them to work effectively, productively and sustainably. To date, we have helped our customers save in excess of \$530m in energy costs alone, cutting CO₂ emissions by 4.3 million tons. We have many imitators, but there is only one 1E.

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