

Webinar: Medical Devices on Enterprise Networks

“Connectologist” Tim Gee Helps Hospitals Avoid Convergence Headaches

Akron, Ohio, May 19, 2009 – This Thursday, Summit Data Communications, a provider of embedded Wi-Fi[®] solutions for medical devices, is co-sponsoring a webinar on transitioning medical devices from private networks to enterprise networks. Entitled “Converging Medical Device and Enterprise Networks”, the webinar features self-described “Connectologist” Tim Gee of Medical Connectivity Consulting, whose medicalconnectivity.com blog has served as a vital industry resource since late 2004.

“Most medical devices in hospitals are on private networks, each designed, installed, and supported by the vendor of the medical device,” says Gee. “While private networks relieve hospitals of the need to assume responsibility for supporting life-critical applications, these networks often become isolated and static ‘islands of information’. Use of devices hospital-wide, electronic medical records, and the rapid adoption of technologies such as Wi-Fi are reducing the viability of private medical device networks and putting hospital IT staffs under pressure to transition medical devices to enterprise networks.”

Moving a device from a private network to a network that supports a heterogeneous mix of devices can be challenging, Gee warns. A complicating factor is FDA regulation of medical devices, because the FDA considers the software that runs on a device and the network that supports the device to be a part of the regulated medical device. When a hospital deploys a medical device system on a network that differs from the device’s network specifications, the hospital is using the medical device “off label” and must be aware of the implications for patient safety.

The free webinar, which is co-sponsored by Summit distributor WAV, Inc., explores the special requirements medical device systems place on enterprise networks and provides best practices for creating safe and effective converged networks. The webinar starts at 11:30 a.m. EDT on Thursday, May 21, and includes a question-and-answer session. To learn more and register for the event, visit the WAV home page at www.wavonline.com.

About Summit

Summit Data Communications, Inc. is the *mobile* in leading mobile computers, medical devices, and other business-critical mobile devices. Summit’s embedded Wi-Fi solutions provide secure, reliable connections in the challenging environments in which business-critical mobile devices operate, including factories, warehouses, ports, hospitals, and retail stores. For more information, visit www.summitdatacom.com.

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