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The Ellwood City Hospital Improves Communications and Quality of Patient Care as Part of Alcatel-Lucent “Connected Hospital” Program

Small, community hospitals get access to same sophisticated voice, data and other communications technologies used by world’s largest medical facilities

At a glance:

- A visit to the [Center for Connected Medicine](#), co-founded by Alcatel-Lucent as a partner with UPMC, inspired The Ellwood City Hospital to build a modern communications network
- Hospital invested in attracting young doctors and staff to offer superior patient care through new advanced network and wireless communications systems

Alcatel-Lucent (Euronext Paris and NYSE: ALU) today announced that [The Ellwood City Hospital](#) has begun deploying Alcatel-Lucent voice and data solutions in an effort to provide greater mobility and advanced communications capabilities for staff, doctors, patients and guests. Located outside of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the small, 95-bed community hospital is served by a medical staff of 140. The new deployment is part of [Alcatel-Lucent’s Connected Hospital Program](#) which seeks to bring new and innovative technology and solutions to medical facilities of all sizes.

Center for Connected Medicine

The Ellwood City Hospital officials elected to transform their communications following a visit in 2010 to the [Center for Connected Medicine](#) (“Center”), which is dedicated to transforming the practice of medicine through innovative and integrative technology. The Center was founded in 2009 by Alcatel-Lucent, UPMC, IBM and Verizon, and to date has hosted 8,000 visitors from 35 countries to highlight the benefits of a connected healthcare organization. Through the visit, officials were able to see how advanced technologies could have a positive impact on patient care and make The Ellwood City Hospital a more appealing workplace for medical personnel, as well.

Benefits of the new network

The hospital installed an advanced wired and wireless communications system throughout its facility, integrating technologies from Alcatel-Lucent. Each floor is now equipped with wireless handsets, enabling staff to move freely around the facility and more effectively serve their patients. The network supports a variety of cutting-edge digital applications, including a payroll system for timetracking and scheduling. The Ellwood City Hospital plans to add additional

network-based information and tracking applications in the future.

Patients and guests, in addition to hospital personnel, are able to connect to the high-speed network using their own smartphones, laptops, tablets or other devices.

The installation encompasses Alcatel-Lucent's [OmniPCX Enterprise Communication Server](#), which combines traditional telephony functions with support for Internet based telephony and multimedia communication, plus the Alcatel-Lucent [OmniSwitch 6850](#) for faster data transmission. Alcatel-Lucent wireless handsets provide medical personnel the freedom to communicate while on their patient rounds or otherwise moving throughout the facility.

Ray Beck, CEO, The
Ellwood City Hospital

"We are implementing a technology to transform The Ellwood City Hospital into a model for 21st century communications, benefitting staff, doctors, patients and all guests," said, Ray Beck, CEO, The Ellwood City Hospital. "Even though we're a smaller facility, we were given access to the same types of strategic technologies as larger, integrated health networks. With our new Alcatel-Lucent high-speed wired and wireless network and digital applications, we are positioned to operate more efficiently, communicate more readily and provide a higher level of patient care."

Jim White, vice
president, Connected
Hospital, Alcatel-
Lucent Enterprise

"We strive to provide our customers with state-of-the-art solutions as seen with The Ellwood City Hospital deployment," said, Jim White, Vice President, Connected Hospital, Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise. "No matter the size – whether large-scale deployment or small, suburban hospital – we enable a no-hassle experience that meets the most demanding users. We're looking forward to continuing our partnership with The Ellwood City Hospital for years to come."

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