Web- based technology for HMS from 21st Century Health

SOUMYA V

For a hospital's efficient functioning, one of the vital doses needed is that of technology, a well integrated and net-worked IT component.

And at a time when most it solution providers are making tailor-made HIS their USP, 21st Century Health Management begs to differ. In the business of providing hospitals with HMS, Satish Kini, director, believes in a well-designed integrated HMS. 21st Century's Novella HMS is a software package that is designed to offer a tailor-made feel to its user. Secondly, 21st Century Health strives to introduce and internalize 'Best Practices' in Indian hospitals with improved systems and processes.

Kini, an IITian, who completed MBA form Jamnalal Bajaj lays emphasis on zero customisation. ''We have what every management wants. And for implementation, we simply identify their processes, map them with Novella processes, identify gaps and implement solution after taking the decision on how to bridge those gaps in consultation with the hospital management. This ensures that implementation is achieved on schedule.

Adds Kini, "We are not just a software company. We are also management consultants for our clients." For Kini, 21st Century Novella HMS also differs in being patient centric. "We try to look at the problem not only from the management angle but also the processes angle so that it becomes patient centric," he explains.
21st Century Health has designed, developed and implemented very complex Hospital Information Systems which span the entire processes of a hospital administration, financial management, patient medical/clinical records and direct interfacing with medical equipment like sonography, etc.

21st Century Novella's first victory with 21st Century Novella HMS was in 1995 at Dr Balabhai Nanavati Hospital, Mumbai (450 beds), Holy Spirit Hospital (250 beds) and St Elizabeth's Hospital (100 beds) followed. A few more are under implementation.

21st Century Novella HMS has adopted a very unique modern web based technology which is not only very powerful in its handling of unstructured documents such as medical/ clinical reports, but also ideally designed to be used on the web. This will ensure that, even in emergencies, the patient's medical/ clinical history is available to bonafide users anytime anyplace through the world wide web.

21st Century Health's state-of-the art technology in its Patient Records Archival and Retrieval System gives it an edge over others in addressing a healthcare market which is going to be dominated by the use of the web. And keeping this in mind, 21st Century Health has developed 21st Century Novella eMedical Record Database (eMRD) solutions for archival / retrieval / manipulation of patient medical records. As of now, eMRD has a tremendous potential mainly in the US and UK market which generate trillions of patients records through Medical transcription.

"We are trying to push the availability of records at the click of mouse. We have a good HMS and we expect 21st Century Novella eMRD to go beyond hospitals and address a wider spectrum of healthcare needs." says Kini. 21st Century's pilot project has begun for a California-based hospital in creating medical record data based of the transcribed records. Speaking about 21st Century Novella eMRD, Kini explains, "Although the medical records are stored as MS-Word / Wordperfect doc files, the patient medical databases are still managed in the traditional methods by using expensive RDBMS like Oracle, etc. 21st Century Novella eMRD system obviates the need to use web friendly technologies which are extremely economical and ideally suited for use on the web. 'As for the 21st Century Health endeavour, the promoters proclaim that the challenge lies in making life simpler in hospitals – for administration, hospital and patient. And in this, 21st Century Health's mission is to introduce "Best Practices" in Indian hospitals through 21st Century Novella HMS.

At present, 21st Century Health has JVs with local US and UK companies. After a year, they plan to set up full-fledged offices there. 21st Century Health also proposes to upgrade state-of-the-art software development and R&D facilities in Mumbai. Apparently, the company has taken off and plans to fly-high very soon.