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Stratus Technologies continuous availability solutions gaining ground on front lines of medical care

Healthcare practices depend on company's medical grade ftServer to keep electronic patient care systems running at 99.999 percent reliability

MAYNARD, Mass., May 13, 2008 – Stratus Technologies' medical grade ftServer® platform is a growing presence on the front lines of healthcare information systems as medical practices computerize their patient care systems and demand the highest levels of data and systems availability from their technology providers.

Healthcare facilities across the country, such as Canyon Park Medical Group, Tri-State Gastroenterology Associates, and Cass Medical Center, are moving to electronic patient information systems to improve efficiency and improve patient care. Among the numerous advantages, electronic systems enable caregivers to instantly check on drug interaction, wirelessly access laboratory results as soon as they're available or patient records after hours for emergencies and prescription requests. Replacing paper patient files with electronic files enables several medical practitioners to simultaneously access a patient's chart and also reduces the chances of files being lost or misplaced.

Stratus® ftServer systems provide the 99.999 percent uptime – the industry’s highest for Windows and Linux applications – that enables healthcare professionals to trust that their electronic systems will be accessible when they need them most. Stratus’ “lockstep” technology ensures that data and applications are available even in the event of a component failure. The Stratus Active Service architecture monitors servers’ operation and notifies the service center of problems before they can cause unscheduled downtime. Stratus either resolves the problem remotely or, if necessary, automatically sends a replacement component for the customer to hot swap with the failed part, all without interrupting server operations.

Canyon Park Medical Group, a 28-person primary care practice in Oklahoma, runs Sage Software’s Intergy EHR electronic health record and Intergy practice management system on Stratus medical grade ftServer hardware. “We’ve only had one component failure since using the Stratus server, and we didn’t even know it because the system kept running. We didn’t find out about the problem until the system sent us an alert,” said Clinic Manager Tonya Keith. “Stratus knows if there is a problem before I do.”

Tri-State Gastroenterology Associates in Kentucky decided to run its Sage Software on Stratus servers after their previous hardware had unplanned downtime and a disc drive failure that interrupted application availability. Missouri-based Cass Medical Center turned to Stratus and Sage Software when it implemented an information system to support all seven of its facilities, according to network administrator Levi Souza.

“I don’t even have to think about the server because it just simply works,” Souza said.

Stratus expects a greater demand for continuous availability solutions at every level of the healthcare industry, according to Alan Gilbert, Stratus healthcare practice leader.

“It’s not melodramatic to say that uptime is a matter of life or death, or at least a person’s wellbeing, when clinicians are depending on an application to make an important healthcare decision. Some solution providers tout their 99 percent uptime, but that amounts to 87 hours of unscheduled downtime a year, or almost four days. The 99.999 percent uptime our medical grade ftServer provides translates into an average of only five minutes unscheduled downtime per year. That is the kind of safety margin medical practitioners require.”

About Sage Software Healthcare, Inc.

Sage Software Healthcare, Inc. provides integrated Electronic Health Records, EDI applications and practice management systems to more than 20,000 ambulatory care practices throughout North America. These systems enable physicians and practice managers to better manage their practices and improve profitability. Intergy EHR by Sage Version 4.0 is a CCHITSM Certified product. Sage Software Healthcare, Inc. is based in Tampa, Fla., and is a division of Sage Software, Inc., the North American operations of The Sage Group plc, one of the world's leading providers of business management software. For more information, please visit www.sagehealth.com.

About Stratus Technologies

Stratus Technologies is a global solutions provider focused exclusively on helping its customers achieve and sustain the availability of information systems that support their critical business processes. Based upon its 28 years of expertise in server and services technology for continuous availability, Stratus is a trusted solutions provider to customers in healthcare, life sciences, manufacturing, telecommunications, financial services, public safety, transportation & logistics, and other industries. For more information, visit www.stratus.com.

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