

Cogon Systems

www.cogonsystems.com Pensacola, Florida

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Cogon Systems Inc. is a healthcare software company that provides hospitals with leading-edge information technology solutions (PATENT PENDING). Cogon Systems raises the standard for patient safety and clinical efficiency through data integration and mobile technology.

Customer HL7 Challenges

To make Moment of Care™ Information Systems successful in both large and small/rural healthcare facilities, Cogon needed to reduce the time they spent developing HL7 interfaces and enhance remote support capabilities.

Mobile Access to Patient Data

Cogon Systems provides caregivers access to patient information anywhere, at any time, no matter which departmental system has the data and no matter where the caregiver is located. Cogon delivers this with their Moment of Care Information Systems, which provides mobile access to host system data through HL7 interfaces. “This makes it possible for caregivers to retrieve up to date patient data anywhere, with any type of wireless device,” states Dr. Huy Nguyen, Chief Executive Officer at Cogon Systems.

As part of their corporate mission, Cogon felt it was important to support rural healthcare organizations in addition to the larger facilities where wireless has historically been used. However, Cogon knew there were specific issues that needed to be addressed if they were to be successful in a rural market. Continues Dr. Nguyen, “Deploying in a rural facility means tighter project budgets, limited local IT staff, and requirements to support lights out/remote monitoring. Rural deployments also force more ownership for implementation and support on the vendor. Therefore, anything we can do to speed up site specific integration and enhance our ability for remote interface management reflects an immediate cost savings.”

Internally Developed HL7 is Expensive

Cogon started HL7 interfacing the way many vendors do – by using a home-grown HL7 solution. Like most users of internally developed HL7 systems, or systems not designed specifically for HL7, Cogon realized their internally developed HL7 software lacked the flexibility required for quick interface development.

Customer Solution

- With Corepoint Integration Engine™, Cogon lowered Moment of Care deployment costs and, with the help of Corepoint Integration Engine’s remote support tools, they eliminated the time previously spent on HL7. Results:
 - Faster interface creation.
 - Minimal HL7 maintenance costs.
 - Deeper HL7 functionality.
 - Lower site installation costs.
 - Increased company profits.
 - More time to focus on core product features and delivering end-user value.

Corepoint Health Delivers

Cogon wanted an HL7 subsystem capable of supporting any HL7 message with minimal implementation and no code changes. They required an HL7 subsystem that supported remote monitoring.

“While looking for an HL7 platform that balanced cost, flexibility, and long-term maintenance expense, we found Corepoint Integration Engine. Key features such as GUI tools for reviewing communication/message traces, the HL7 Derivative Explorer, and interface monitoring were important in selecting Corepoint Health. Corepoint Integration Engine is designed from the ground up to be easy to use as an application’s gateway to HL7. This makes Corepoint Integration Engine an excellent choice for healthcare ISVs wanting to support HL7,” explains Dr. Nguyen.

“From the first I was impressed with how easy Corepoint Integration Engine made creating connections and defining interfaces. In addition, Corepoint Integration Engine’s management tools make remote support easy,” adds Mr. Hsu.

CUSTOMER SUCCESS

According to Cogon's Chief Technology Officer, David Hsu: "Before we began using Corepoint Integration Engine, supporting site specific flavors of HL7 often required code changes. This meant lots of development and lots of testing to make sure code changes did not impact existing interfaces. In addition, we did not have the troubleshooting and monitoring tools needed to meet the additional support requirements imposed by the rural setting.

When Florida State University's Medical School contracted Cogon to provide their Moment of Care system to a rural hospital for a state funded study, and wanted installation to occur in rural facilities as quickly as possible, Cogon decided to switch their HL7 interfacing to Corepoint Integration Engine."

Solution Details

Being able to access clinical data anywhere has a huge impact on the quality of patient care. As Dr. Nguyen states: "The clinical impact of mobile access to up to date patient data is that caregivers spend less time preparing each day's rounds and have the ability to review disparate patient information at anytime. The security of knowing all of the data needed for an informed decision is readily available, from a single device that operates anywhere the caregiver happens to be, is invaluable to the care giver and the patient.

Moment of Care uses HL7 to collect patient data from healthcare information systems such as reference labs, pharmacies, radiology, etc. The Moment of Care server processes and loads this data into a backend database that caregivers access using web-based applications and mobile devices. Using Moment of Care, caregivers are able to access real-time patient data anywhere they happen to be.

With Corepoint Integration Engine accepting HL7 messages, and passing HL7 data to the Moment of Care server as XML, deployment times for Moment of Care installations have been dramatically reduced. We can't say enough about how easy it was to connect Corepoint Integration Engine into Moment of Care. In a matter of days we were able to provide our customers with an advanced level of HL7 interfacing."

Summary

Dr. Nguyen concludes his comments: "For Cogon, Corepoint Integration Engine's Return on Investment (ROI) is calculated in both the savings realized on the Florida State University Medical School project and the savings for future Moment of Care installations. The time savings seen during the Florida State University Medical School project pays for our investment in Corepoint Integration Engine. Savings will continue with future Moment of Care installations as Corepoint Integration Engine pays for itself repeatedly. Corepoint Integration Engine's deep functionality means lower total expense on every interface deployed.

Mr. Hsu concludes: "Corepoint Integration Engine's features could never be built internally on a reasonable budget, and in time for quick time to market. Using Corepoint Integration Engine, and having Corepoint Health supporting our HL7 solution, provides huge savings across our total HL7 costs.

Because HL7 interfaces could be quickly developed, we met initial deployment schedules. Since HL7 maintenance is easy using Corepoint Integration Engine tools, we are able to make Moment of Care a practical platform for small/rural healthcare facilities. Corepoint Integration Engine is committed to providing a great product at a fair price, while remaining flexible to customer requirements. If a vendor tells you they use Corepoint Health, you can rest assured their interfaces work."

Equally important was keeping interface development time low and eliminating code changes for new interfaces. "Interface development for new Moment of Care sites is directly proportional to Moment of Care success. Every minute we can cut from our implementation schedule means we can focus on adding product features and delivering value," continues Dr. Nguyen.

In addition to Corepoint Integration Engine being a comprehensive, easy to deploy HL7 subsystem that was quickly integrated into Moment of Care, Corepoint Health proved to be a company who stands beside their product. This is summarized by Mr. Hsu when he states, "Corepoint Health provided both architectural and deployment guidance and support where needed to quickly and effectively deploy an HL7 interface with access to patient data. They are truly interested in building their business through the success of their customers."

With Corepoint Integration Engine incorporated into Moment of Care, Cogon is ready for any integration project – even those with a short schedule. By using Corepoint Integration Engine's trouble shooting and remote management features, Cogon is also prepared to remotely support the interfaces.

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About Corepoint Health

Corepoint Health has the healthcare IT experience and strength to deliver a dramatically simplified approach to internal and external data integration and health information exchange for hospitals, radiology centers, laboratories, and clinics. Our next generation software solutions are transformational and will streamline your IT environment, provide a fast track to achieving your interoperability goals, and create operational leverage within your organization. Corepoint Health's solutions achieve a needed balance of being both intuitive and sophisticated while delivering solid functionality and performance.

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