



# Solution Sheet Asset Tracking

## ***The Challenge: Managing mobile medical equipment***

A big challenge for hospitals today is the management of mobile medical equipment. A mid-size hospital already has thousands of mobile devices and more equipment is constantly being added as hospitals require new advances to better serve a growing number of patients. This increases the strain on engineering departments that are responsible for managing and maintaining the equipment inventory and adds financial strain to the operations when trying to ensure broad availability of patient care devices.

Medical devices that are used for patient care in hospitals are subject to systematic preventive maintenance procedures enforced by the Joint Commission in the U.S., recommended by the WHO, and required by authorities in several other countries. The goal for the maintenance procedures is to reduce the risk of equipment malfunction that can lead to costly and life-threatening mistakes in patient care.

To cope with the maintenance requirement and to assure optimum availability, the biomedical department needs to have a system for finding its medical equipment for routine cleaning and re-calibration. Finding the correct equipment manually is a sizeable task as the equipment can be anywhere on the campus.

One solution to the problem is to purchase or rent more equipment so that shortages become rare and caregivers can easily locate available equipment quickly. But sourcing more and more equipment is usually not financially justified.



## ***Real-time asset location, enables streamlined maintenance operation and reduced number of equipment rentals***

The equipment locations are shown clearly on a floor map or on a list with a room or zone name. The user can search for a particular asset, a group of assets (such as "all IV pumps"), or use a combined search (such as "IV pumps located in the third floor OR"). Ekahau's easy-to-use rules engine automates queries, reports, and events, making the system easy for anyone to learn.

Assets are visible at all times and can be queried by individual name or MAC address or in groups to match PM schedules.

### **Ekahau RTLS Solution:**

- T301 tags
- Ekahau RTLS Controller
- Vision End-User Application



## ***A Real Time Location System provides the practical solution***

A simple remedy to the problem is to have a system that knows the whereabouts of all equipment at all times and anywhere on the campus. The Ekahau RTLS (Real Time Location System) offers a simple to use, solution for locating equipment using a Web browser, even when equipment is locked behind closed doors.

Service requests, system alerts and various system triggers can all be sent to the Ekahau T301BD Wi-Fi pagers. This way the engineering staff can be made fully aware of all system alerts and requests while they are working around the hospital.

Ekahau's RTLS system has been designed from the ground up to cater to the needs of hospitals. By leveraging an existing Wi-Fi infrastructure, the complete system can be up and running in a few weeks with no disruption to patient care or the facilities themselves. Ekahau's proven technology and patented algorithms are the basis for consistently winning RTLS bake-offs around the world.

## **Benefits**

- **By implementing Ekahau RTLS, any hospital staff member can find any tagged hospital asset, in real time, anywhere on campus.**
- **When preventive maintenance is due, the technician can produce a report that lists each device and its current location shortening the time for equipment rounding. This leads to increased utilization and improved patient care.**
- **Ekahau system will acknowledge the caregiver that the request has been received.**
- **Ekahau RTLS enables optimizing the distribution of assets across departments or even multiple facilities. Underutilized equipment can be reallocated and excess rental capacity can be eliminated resulting in an excellent ROI for the system.**

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