Altru Health System Uses Ekahau's Real-Time Asset Tracking and Analytics Solution to Improve Caregiver Productivity

Challenge

Altru Health System is a leading hospital newtork serving 409,515 outpatients and 13,927 inpatients each year in Grand Forks, North Dakota. The ability to quickly secure medical equipment required for patient discharges, admissions, and medical procedures is critical to operational efficiency and a positive patient experience. Altru Health needed a solution for hospital-wide visibility into the location and status of mobile equipment to make them more accessible to caregivers.

Solution

Altru Health deployed AiRISTA Flow featuring Ekahau's Real-Time Location Tracking (RTLS) solution for asset tracking, management, and analytics reporting to reduce staff search times for vital medical equipment, including: code blue crash carts, patient beds, specialty beds, wheel chairs, IV pumps, and other bedside assets. AiRISTA Flow RTLS offers a 100% wire-free RTLS installation and server-hosted software that leverages the hospital's existing Wi-Fi network, ensuring that whole-hospital RTLS adoption is cost-effective, thus improving the effectiveness of a hospital-wide asset tracking application.

AiRISTA Flow's Wi-Fi RFID asset tags are attached to mobile equipment while the Ekahau Vision™ RTLS software platform allows caregivers to search web-based maps for equipment by ID number, location and other attributes, saving time that would otherwise be spent searching room by room, while patients wait. Staff members can simply log into the system with a web-browser and search for the nearest

item in a map view.

AiRISTA Flow's geo-fencing feature also reduces the likelihood of equipment theft by alerting the closest staff members, when equipment is about to leave through restricted zones such as exits. The AiRISTA Flow software also reports on equipment utilization rates, availability rates, and the quantities in designated locations in order to help managers better predict their equipment demands or produce forecasts related to possible, related expenditures.
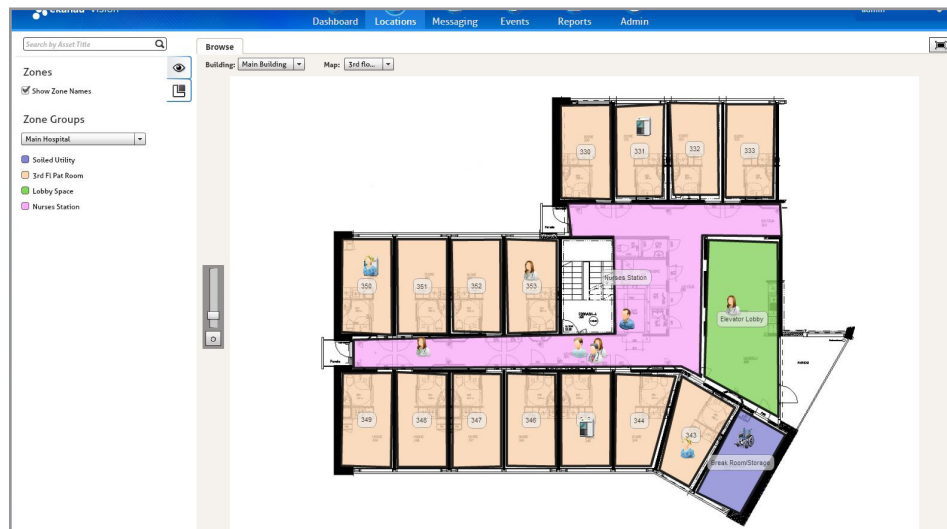
The AiRISTA Flow RTLS asset tracking solution enables caregivers to locate vital equipment quickly, reduce patient wait times, and improve patient satisfaction. The system also allows analyzing equipment workflows and reveals equipment related bottlenecks, giving managers critical information for improving workflow processes and ultimately caregiver productivity.

"By helping caregivers locate vital equipment quickly, we can reduce patient wait times and improve patient satisfaction. Our busy caregivers find the Ekahau RTLS asset tracking solution indispensable and easy to use, while and our engineers can now analyze equipment utilization rates and increase availability to better meet changing demands," Clyde Strand, Biomedical Engineering Manager, Altru Health System.

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AiRISTA FLOW