

Careggi University Hospital, Italy

MediCal QAWeb inspires diagnostic confidence in Tuscan hospitals



“Barco’s online QA service saves us at least 40 man-days annually in the context of our QA program.”

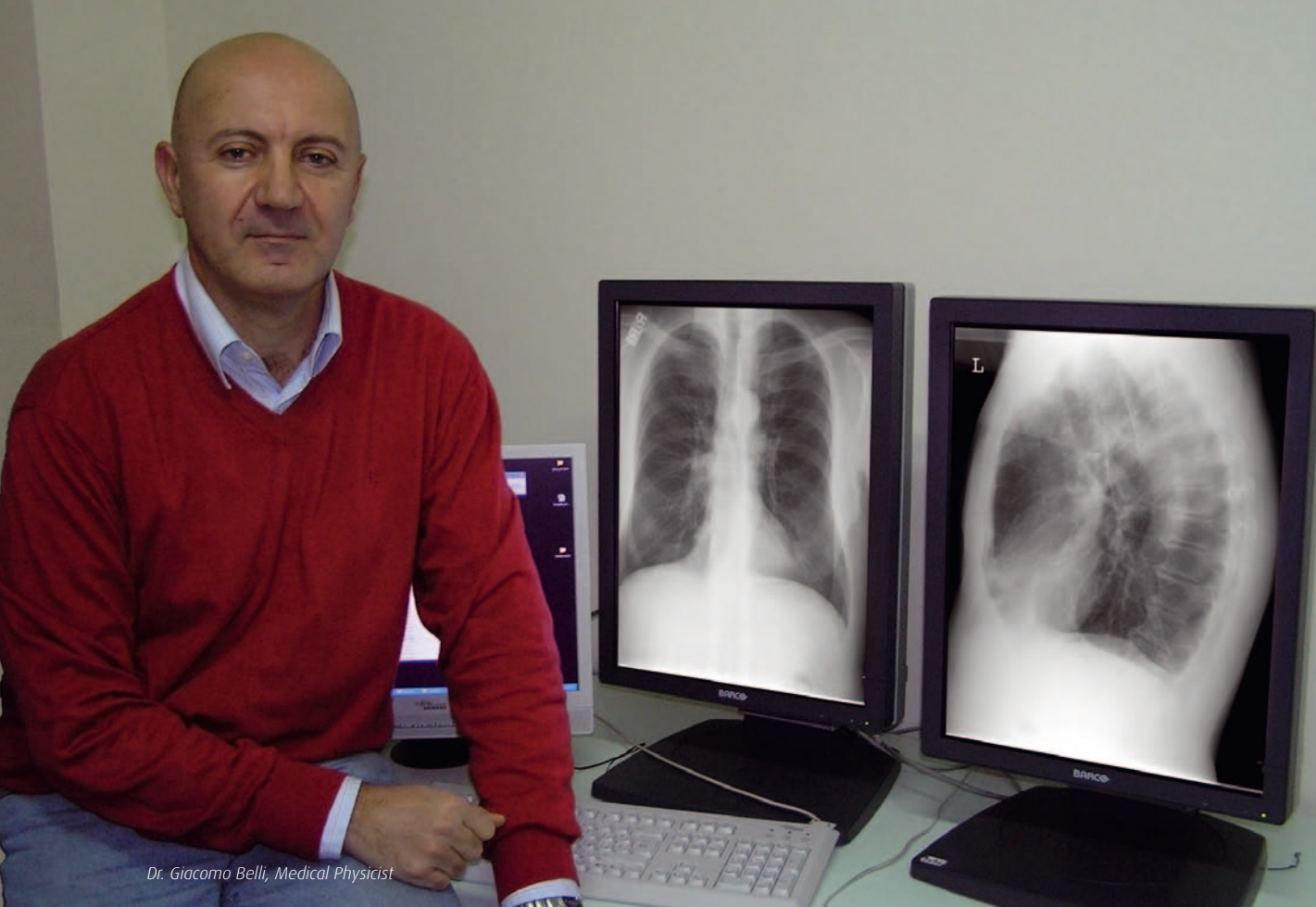
Dr. Simone Busoni, Medical Physicist,
Careggi University Hospital, Florence, Italy

1,650 beds, 54,000 in-patients, 22,000 day hospital admissions and nearly 10 million medical examinations per year: these are only a few figures illustrating how the Italian Careggi University Hospital is one of Europe’s largest hospitals. Ever since its foundation in the early 20th century, Careggi University Hospital has been on a mission to “perform medical procedures at the highest level of specialization and act as a technology innovation leader”. The hospital’s step to a PACS system, prompted by a region-wide decision, perfectly underpins that mission statement. Since 2007, the hospital has a trusted solution to help it achieve its goal: a PACS system featuring nearly 120 Barco medical displays.

Each Coronis system comes with MediCal QAWeb, the first online service for high-grade Quality Assurance. The unique solution helps the radiology team save precious time, whilst guaranteeing the utmost diagnostic confidence.

BARCO

Visibly yours



Dr. Giacomo Belli, Medical Physicist

available on today's market. We were pretty impressed by Barco's products. No other vendor could offer this unique online calibration system," Dr. Belli recalled. Since the Barco displays met all the technical requirements of the healthcare authorities, the temporary consortium of companies that won the tender for the RIS PACS project in the Florence metropolitan area chose Barco as their subcontractor.

Results confirmed

To verify MediCal QAWeb's performance, extra tests with independent instruments are carried out each year. "We conduct an acceptance test of the medical displays and an exhaustive test once a year, mainly for luminance uniformity check and to be sure the integrated luminance sensor solution (I-Guard) is working properly," Dr. Busoni explained. "The manually measured physical parameters (luminance, uniformity, GSD, chromaticity and veiling glare) all produce results that fall within the tolerance limits proposed by the major international protocols and show a very good stability over time."

Saving 40 man-days

For Careggi University Hospital, these manual tests confirm how MediCal QAWeb is a trustworthy support tool, which helps them save time and, consequently, money, while ensuring optimal diagnostic procedures. Simone Busoni: "Barco's online service saves us 60 minutes for each luminance and GSD compliance test to be performed on a dual-head workstation. For a large facility like ours, this represents a saving of at least 40 man-days per year, in the context of our QA program.

The possibility to remotely calibrate the displays and be alerted when parameters are exceeded saves additional manpower." Equally appreciated is the system's ability to maintain a global common QA policy for calibration and quality controls (QCs), thus making management of the entire system easier and smoother. "And the radiology workflow is never disturbed as the integrated luminance sensor solution (I-Guard) ensures that most of the QA tests are performed in the background," says Dr. Busoni.

First-class solutions and customer service

In brief, the Coronis displays perfectly address Careggi University Hospital's display needs, while the accurate QA program ensures that all PACS images are consistently visualized at any time on all softcopy display devices. "In addition, Barco delivers excellent customer support. Both commercial and R&D people have responded promptly to any question we've had since the start of our cooperation," explains Simone Busoni.

"As a Medical Physics Department, we are always glad to test future technology improvements. So whenever an expansion of our medical display array would be needed, we might consider the latest wide-screen 6 MP Coronis devices, as we were most impressed by their physical performance during a recent trial in our labs," Simone Busoni concluded.

Customer:

Careggi University Hospital, Italy
Approx. 5,800 employees
www.aou-careggi.toscana.it

Challenges and objectives:

- Reliable, high-quality imaging for one of the largest PACS projects in Europe
- Automatic, remote and intervention-free QA management

Barco solution and services:

- 114 Coronis display systems (2, 3 & 5MP; color & grayscale)
- 4 mammography display systems
- MediCal QAWeb service (Premium level)

Why Barco

- High-quality display and faultless image quality
- Unique online service to help manage the displays (remotely)
- Professional sales and support team



About Barco

Barco, a global market leader in visualization solutions for PACS, has been developing visionary medical imaging solutions for over twenty years. Driven by experience and innovation, Barco presents a full range of advanced display solutions for radiology, mammography, surgery and viewing DICOM images across the healthcare enterprise.

From acquisition to display, from image processing to quality assurance, Barco's hardware and software solutions deliver the perfection patients deserve.

Request more information

Europe, Middle East, Africa
& Latin America
Phone: +32 56 233 557
sales.medical.eu@barco.com

North America
Phone: +1 866 302 7939
sales.medical.us@barco.com

Taiwan
Phone: +886 2 8771 0883
sales.medical.apac@barco.com

South Korea
Phone: +82 2 2175 8900
sales.medical.apac@barco.com

China
Phone: +86 21 6091 2222
sales.medical.apac@barco.com

Singapore
Phone: +65 6243 7610
sales.medical.apac@barco.com

India
Phone: +91 120 4020000
sales.medical.apac@barco.com

Australia
Phone: +61 3 9646 5833
sales.medical.apac@barco.com

Japan
Phone: +81 3 3279 0771