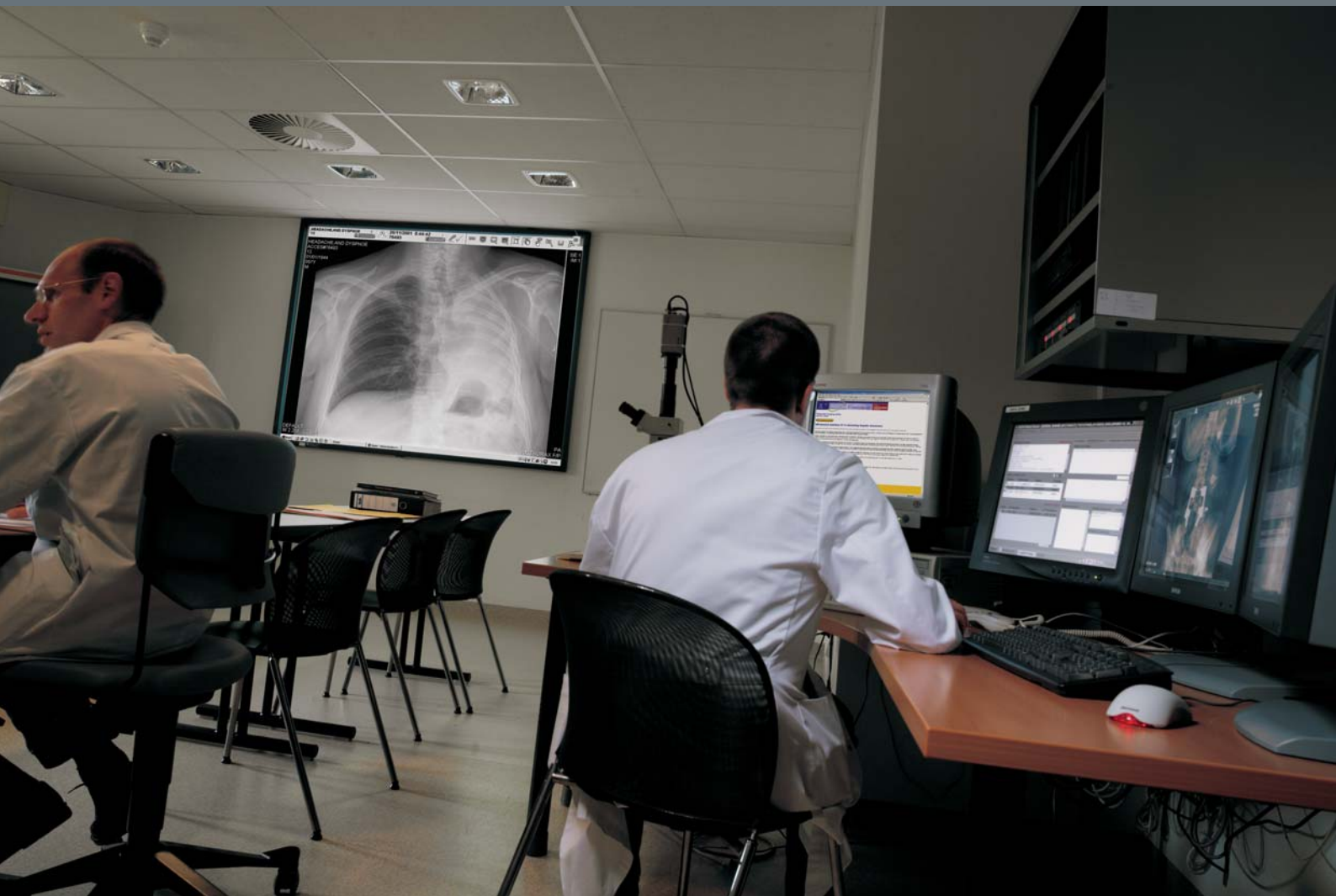


DICOM THEATER®



Projections you can rely on at the Imelda Hospital in Bonheiden, Belgium

Like many other modern medical facilities implementing PACS, the Imelda Hospital in Bonheiden, Belgium, experienced a growing need for a large-screen visualization solution, capable of visualizing a variety of medical images, video and business documents. To meet this demand, the hospital has introduced

Barco's advanced DICOM THEATER® medical grade projection solution in their conference room. Dr. Jan Schillebeeckx, Head of the Medical Imaging Department, is enthusiastic about the new possibilities DICOM THEATER® offers, and agreed to shed light on their choice for Barco's unique imaging solution.

BARCO

Visibly yours



Dr. Jan Schillebeecx

- Graduated at Leuven University, Belgium
- Specialized in vascular radiology
- Authorized instructor at Leuven University
- Former chairman of the Belgian Professional Society of Radiology
- Board member of EuroPACS
- Current position: Head of Medical Imaging at the Imelda Hospital, Bonheiden, Belgium

Imelda Hospital
Imeldalaan 9
B-2820 Bonheiden
Belgium

- Number of beds: 500
- Number of medical specialists: >100
- Medical staff: >1200
- Medical imaging system: 6 diagnostic and 550 clinical workstations
- PACS system: Agfa IMPAX® v4.5, Agfa WEB1000
- Medical care provided: internal medicine, neurology, respiratory disease, digestive tract internal medicine, cardiovascular internal medicine, pediatrics, orthopedic surgery, plastic surgery, respiratory tract surgery, cardiac surgery, pediatric surgery, dermatology, urology, gynecology, ophthalmology, rehabilitation, radiology, dental and oral surgery, anesthesiology, oncology, neurosurgery, geriatrics,...



Dr. Schillebeecx, could you give us a brief introduction to the Imelda Hospital?

The Imelda Hospital is a general hospital with 450 inpatient and 50 day clinic beds, substantial outpatient activity, and a primary trauma center. It is located in Bonheiden, in the center of Belgium. The hospital has a medical staff of more than 1,200 people and more than 100 medical specialists, active in a broad range of medical disciplines.

You are Head of the hospital's Imaging Department. Could you tell us a little more about the hospital's position towards modern digital medical imaging?

From the very beginning, I have always had a strong personal interest in digital imaging and PACS. Also the hospital has always had a strong tendency towards digitization. Over the past 10 years, we have made a very conscious choice to implement an advanced digital imaging system for our radiology department. It has made the Imelda Hospital one of the most advanced digital hospitals in Belgium today.

Can you tell us a little more about the hospital's PACS system?

Initially, the hospital introduced a stand-alone PACS system in the medical imaging department. Soon however, we began to realize that we could only fully benefit from this application if a link was made to other IT applications. A strong integration between the Hospital Information System (HIS), Radiology Information System (RIS), Electronic Patient Record (EPR), and PACS is essential to reach the ultimate goal: a filmless and paperless hospital.

Has the hospital indeed become a filmless hospital?

Yes, for three years now, we are a filmless hospital. And the results are unmistakable. Productivity for radiologists, technologists, and clerks has increased. In addition to this and other familiar advantages such as user-friendliness and environment-friendliness, PACS has a strong influence on profitability. With conventional methods, the technologist lost five minutes per patient carrying out such activities as developing film, filing images, and moving them back and forth. At 300 patients per day, this adds up. That time is now devoted to better service and higher quality of healthcare for our patients.

“All of our visitors are very much impressed with DICOM THEATER®'s diagnostic quality”

How many viewing stations are being used?

The hospital-wide PACS system includes 6 diagnostic workstations and 550 clinical workstations, all running Agfa's IMPAX® or WEB1000. All together, our department conducts about 120,000 examinations a year, generating approximately 2.5 to 3 terabytes of data annually.



The Imelda Hospital has always been a pioneer in modern medical imaging. Why did the hospital decide to install a large-screen medical projector?

In our daily medical practice, we often organize multi-disciplinary team meetings, where radiologists and clinicians gather to discuss their patients' cases.

These gatherings used to be rather impractical, as everyone needed to bring films, files, reports, examination results, etc. Modern large-screen visualization technology allows us to organize these meetings in a much more efficient and structured way. For our conferences, Barco's DICOM THEATER® is certainly a very suitable visualization solution. It allows radiologists, clinicians and pathologists to discuss their results in a joint meeting, looking at the same data on a large screen. And I have to say, everyone is very enthusiastic about the outstanding quality of the projections.

Which specific features or functionalities do you value in particular?

I believe there are two main qualities that distinguish DICOM THEATER® from standard projectors. First of all, DICOM THEATER® really makes a difference when it comes to image quality. The built-in I-GUARD® sensor, combined with Barco's MEDICAL® softcopy calibration tool, guarantees diagnostic quality at all times. DICOM THEATER® really sets new standards here.

A second very important aspect has to do with functionality and productivity. Take for instance DICOM THEATER®'s picture-in-picture functionality. That function proves very practical during radio-clinical gatherings. It allows us to visualize a lot of data from various sources with a single projector, and to rapidly switch from one screen to another. We can, for instance, simultaneously combine DICOM-compliant medical images with endoscopic video images, pathologic microscope data

and information from the electronic patient record. This is a function that proves very practical during our meetings. It helps us to improve accuracy and to enhance overall productivity

How would you evaluate DICOM THEATER® so far?

Without any doubt, DICOM THEATER® is a very valuable solution for hospitals' interdisciplinary conference rooms: it is easy to use, it is multi-functional and it enables medical professionals to organize their meetings in a much more efficient way. On top of that, it has brought us the DICOM-quality we are looking for, and which no other projection system could give us. In our hospital, we receive several foreign resident doctors every week, and all of them are very much impressed with the excellent image quality of this projection system.

“The user-friendly picture-in-picture function allows us to improve accuracy and to enhance overall productivity”

Do you believe that large-screen medical imaging solutions like DICOM THEATER® will become more and more indispensable in modern medical facilities?

Absolutely. Every modern hospital has a need for one or more multi-functional conference rooms. I believe that there is a place for one or more large-screen DICOM-compliant imaging solutions in every hospital. Along with a lot of my colleagues, I am convinced that DICOM THEATER® is a perfect solution, bringing unmatched image quality to these conference rooms.

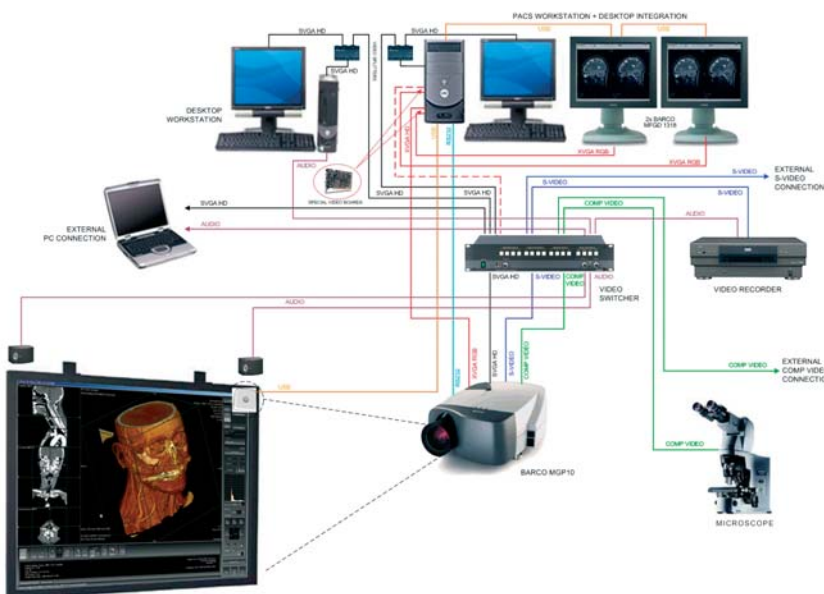


DICOM THEATER® configuration at Imelda Hospital

The DICOM THEATER® conference room at the Imelda Hospital offers its users the necessary flexibility to accommodate their visualization needs. On the single-head MGP 10 Medical Grade Projector, the following sources can be displayed:

- PACS workstation: 3 monitor set-up - 2 CORONIS® 1MP Landscape & 1 18" LCD Radiology Information System monitor. All 3 sources can be projected.
- Desktop workstation: 17" CRT monitor with XGA resolution
- Free external PC connection
- Video Recorder: S-Video
- Microscope with composite video output
- Free external composite video connection

An external video switcher was added to the DICOM THEATER® product bundle to allow for this extended connectivity.



In search of continuous improvement

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Technical specifications are subject to change without prior notice

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