

National Institute for Cancer Research Genoa, Italy



Reliable and fast diagnoses with Barco display systems and
Quality Assurance software



“Thanks to the reliability of the Barco display systems and Quality Assurance software, we can work faster, more comfortably and with a higher level of confidence.”

**Doctor Carlo Emanuele Neumaier,
Director of the Diagnostic Imaging Unit of
the National Institute for Cancer Research,
Genoa, Italy**

In 2004, the Diagnostic Imaging Unit at the National Institute for Cancer Research (IST) in Genoa, Italy, introduced a Barco solution for integration in its Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS).

Doctor Carlo Emanuele Neumaier, the unit’s director, is very satisfied with the Barco system. “Barco’s CORONIS® display systems, which feature the I-GUARD® sensor, combined with MEDICAL Pro and MEDICAL Administrator QA software, benefit both patients and doctors,” he says.

As a top diagnostic center, the Diagnostic Imaging Unit at the IST aims at providing patients with reliable and fast diagnoses at a cost compatible with the principles of modern health administration. The IST has 80 beds for inpatients plus 20 beds for day hospital patients.

Having served as a pilot site for the Ligurian health service for years, the Institute boasts all the latest medical technologies. In 2004, through the financial support of the Liguria region, one of the smallest regions in Italy, the Diagnostic Imaging Unit implemented a solution from Barco. The system included top-quality flat panel displays, high-speed display controllers and intervention-free softcopy QA management tools, integrated into the institute’s brand-new PACS.

Working better and faster

The Diagnostic Imaging Unit uses Barco’s CORONIS® 2, 3 and 5MP gray-scale and COLOR CORONIS 2MP medical display systems. Each dual-head system includes integrated I-GUARD® technology that is linked to the MediCal Pro and MediCal Administrator QA software.

“We decided to take one step at a time so that we could thoroughly test the different display solutions,” explains Doctor Neumaier, the director of the unit who is in charge of the PACS project at the Institute. “Currently we are using two CORONIS® 2MP systems, a CORONIS® 3MP system for traditional radiology and a CORONIS® 5MP system for chest imaging and mammography.”

"Thanks to the reliability of the Barco medical display systems and the real-time Quality Assurance, "we can work faster, more comfortably and with a higher level of confidence," Doctor Neumaier adds.

Error-proof diagnoses thanks to automated quality control

The doctors at the Institute consider the Barco QA solution the best and most reliable available. The I-GUARD® sensor on the CORONIS® display measures a small control zone of the screen in real time. Together with the MEDI-CAL Pro QA software, it verifies that the output of the grayscale or color images conforms to the specifications of the system. If the measured values exceed these specifications, the MEDI-CAL Pro QA software

alerts the central system and instructs a solution automatically. Moreover, the MEDI-CAL Administrator software allows for the quality management of all display systems in the Unit from any remote location.

"Barco Coronis® display systems and Barco QA software provide quality and reliability"

"The success of digital diagnosis depends entirely on the quality and reliability of the images on the display," he says. "The Barco modular system provides absolute quality and functions perfectly to the smallest detail."

The integrated I-GUARD® external sensor does not hamper the view and the display screen shows the image

in the finest detail. The Quality Control software ensures that there is no need for technicians in the ward and that the radiologist never has to interrupt his or her work.

Doctor Neumaier and his colleagues in the Diagnostic Imaging Unit appreciate the efficiency and professionalism that Barco has demonstrated both during the design and the installation phases of the project and in after-sales service. "All were carried out with the same quality level as can be found in the Barco products," says Doctor Neumaier.



QA software beneficial for patients and administrators

As the IST is an Institute for Cancer Research, it is essential to monitor the development of the pathology and to document the effects of the treatment. According to Doctor Neumaier, "The MEDICAL QA software is very beneficial for patients. It ensures that the data, made available by PACS, is consistently displayed over time in the highest quality and detail, thus allowing for better analyses."

Rapid, efficient and reliable, the Barco QA software is also highly appreci-

ated by softcopy QA administrators. The service costs, even for a medium-sized unit, are far below average. Even the management costs of the service will be considerably reduced as a result, given that the MEDICAL Administrator software allows for remote, hospital-wide quality control.

Doctor Neumaier concludes: "The Barco display systems and QA software allowed us to obtain very satisfactory results right from the start of the project. Therefore we decided to extend our system configuration with four additional workstations, including Barco's CORONIS 5MP Mammo display system"



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