

IPSWICH HOSPITAL NHS TRUST CASE STUDY

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Karl Kroger
Data and Security Administrator
Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust Case Study

Customer Profile

Industry: NHS

Location: Ipswich, UK

Solutions Provided

- Varonis DatAnywhere
- Secure Data Sharing

Business Results

- Reduced risk in sharing confidential files with third parties
- Reduced costs and improved productivity on sharing documents before meetings
- More efficiency in scheduling for staff working remotely
- Easy to set up with minimal input from IT and simple for all employees to use

Background

Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust is a busy district general hospital in Suffolk, England. Its 3,500 employees provide a wide range of emergency, medical, surgical, and maternity services to the population of East Suffolk and serves a catchment area of approximately 360,000 people.

The Challenge

The hospital has several boards and committees comprised of employees, external members of the public, and volunteer non-executive directors. Before each meeting, board papers would be produced printed and circulated. The added frustration was, often, items would change or be added to the agenda which would mean reprinting and circulating the papers at the last minute. On occasion, due to last minute changes, information would be emailed which was far from ideal due to the sensitive nature of the documents.

Another problem to consider was Accident and Emergency Consultants working in this busy department wanted to be able to share and view the work schedule, which often changed at the last minute, while they were away from the hospital.

Finally, Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust wanted to adhere to the Information Governance Check List while sharing with third party organisations such as legal firms, insurance companies and other medical professions. Sharing patient documents with third parties previously meant sending printed materials.

The Solution

Using Varonis DatAnywhere, Ipswich Hospital created a dedicated environment where confidential information such as board and committee papers and meeting minutes (for example, containing future plans and initiatives under evaluation, that could cause unnecessary upset if disclosed before formalised), can be stored. Occasionally DatAnywhere is also used to share confidential information such as patient files with external third-party organisations, or even large files such as repository logs. Strict control must be maintained over what is published outside of the Hospital; DatAnywhere keeps all data in their existing file services environment, so the information doesn't actually leave the hospital's system and Ipswich Hospital's manageability is kept simple.

Karl Kroger, Ipswich Hospital's data and security administrator, says: “The requirement came up at short notice so we didn't really have long to research the market. We did a search and found Varonis - on paper DatAnywhere looked really good because it would allow us to keep the data on our systems yet share it externally when needed. We knew the technology could do the job we wanted and was reasonably priced. What won us over was how helpful Varonis and SecureData were. They really were keen to help set up a demo, and were able to move quickly to get us up and working in a matter of days.”

The Outcome

Improved Productivity and Efficiency

Ipswich Hospital now uses DatAnywhere to circulate confidential board materials to its non-executive directors, whom have all responded positively to the solution. They can access prepared documents instantly, which can be updated right up to the start of, and viewed throughout their meetings. DatAnywhere has dramatically reduced the cost of printed materials, and improved productivity for both the admin team responsible for preparing papers but also the board members who can view materials when convenient to them.

Via DatAnywhere, the remote emergency team can now access and change a central work schedule that encompasses every shift for the whole department. Karl Kroger: “Our emergency doctors, who can sometimes be less accessible simply because they are just so busy and work shifts, have been able to get up and running with minimal interaction from IT. Feedback about DatAnywhere has been that it’s intuitive – there have been no issues of anyone not understanding what is required.”

Reduced Risk

Looking at a specific user case, Ipswich Hospital has also found DatAnywhere useful when sharing patient documents with third parties. Karl added, “DatAnywhere has introduced a number of benefits. We now have the ability to share files with third parties – for example, we sometimes have requests to view the ‘log files’ [recorded network activity which can be used to isolate errors, or unusual behaviour, within the enterprise] which are very large, and we can use DatAnywhere to do this.”

By creating a dedicated, easy to manage environment where confidential materials are stored, and using DatAnywhere to provision access, Ipswich Hospital now retains strict control over what is published outside of the hospital. “My team and I can see what is being shared and with whom – something we couldn’t do without Varonis,” says Karl.

ABOUT SECUREDATA

SecureData is a leading provider of cybersecurity services and solutions.

SecureData looks beyond point technologies to address cybersecurity as a whole. The company offers a comprehensive set of professional and managed security services across the entire attack continuum.

For over 25 years SecureData has been helping organisations assess risks, detect threats, protect assets and respond to breaches quickly and effectively ensuring essential IT infrastructure always remains secure and available.

SensePost, the consulting arm of SecureData includes some of the world’s most preeminent cybersecurity experts. Trusted by both corporate and military organisations across multiple countries, SensePost helps organisations to protect IT infrastructure and stay ahead of evolving cybersecurity threats.

Operating across the UK, South Africa and the USA, SecureData has an enviable track record having delivered cybersecurity services for many business sectors including finance, insurance, retail, property, professional services, technology and government.



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