

# Client Success Story

St. Bernard Hospital

Summit Express Connect Streamlines Integration; Leveraged for HIE Initiative



St. Bernard Hospital

## CLIENT

St. Bernard Hospital  
Chicago, IL

## CHALLENGE

To streamline hospital integration efforts cost effectively.

## SOLUTION

Summit Express Connect enables integration across the hospital enterprise with significant ROI.

## RESULT

- \$150,000 cost savings by leveraging interface engine technology
- Leveraged 1 ADT feed to connect to 6 destination systems
- Foundation in place to quickly and cost effectively connect systems
- Early participant to MetroChicago HIE

## PROFILE

St. Bernard Hospital and Health Care Center is a Chicago-based facility founded in 1904. They are focused on providing a broad range of health and wellness services to the local community with a ranking among the top 5% in the nation for emergency medicine.

In June 2010, the hospital looked to streamline their integration strategy to ensure they were fully maximizing their interface investment and providing tight integration between their HIS and ancillary systems. In 2012, they began efforts as an early contributor to the MetroChicago Health Information Exchange with the goal to enhance the quality of patient care by enabling secure, accurate data exchange among all healthcare providers.

## CHALLENGE

St. Bernard Hospital, like many other hospitals, is becoming more forward focused in supporting data sharing and tighter integration. As hospitals look to meet these goals, the cost of integrating systems can become quickly cost prohibitive.

St. Bernard Hospital first needed to tackle their internal integration strategy to ensure tight integration between their HIS and ancillary systems. They were looking to eliminate their point to point interface strategy and replace this with a more cost effective, end user driven technology platform that would also grow as their integration strategy evolved.

Connecting to their local city HIE was also on the horizon, as well as initiatives like Meaningful Use. Both of which would need to be accounted for when evaluating integration vendors. It was imperative that St. Bernard partner with an integration vendor that could support these initiatives but also one that had both a robust technology platform and experience integrating systems with their particular HIS platform, Meditech.

## SOLUTION

As mentioned above, St. Bernard Hospital selected Summit Healthcare,

*“We made the investment at St. Bernard’s in Summit Express Connect to initially connect our hospital information system to our ancillary systems. When we were presented with the opportunity to participate in the Metro Chicago HIE, we knew we had the interoperability technology foundation in place to succeed. We are happy to report that the integration and data exchange for the projects have gone smoothly and for that we truly value our partnership with Summit Healthcare.”*

**– Anwar Botros, Information Systems Director,  
St. Bernard Hospital**

in June 2010 as their integration partner and implemented the Summit Express Connect interface engine technology. Summit Express Connect allowed the hospital to establish a foundation for internal HIS integration and also lay the ground work for upcoming projects like the MetroChicago HIE.

## RESULTS

Building an interface engine strategy has allowed St. Bernard Hospital to establish a strong foundation for integration, data sharing and collaboration efforts for integrated patient care.

Since implementing the Summit Express Connect interface engine two years ago, St. Bernard has seen a cost savings of more than \$150,000 with the elimination of point to point interface costs related to purchasing and maintenance alone. Since going live with the interface engine they have been able to leverage their interface investments time and time again.

One direct measurable metric can be tied to the Admission/Discharge/Transfer (ADT) interface that has been split over six times and responsible for enabling the connection between their Meditech HIS and the following destination systems; McKesson Care Enhance, Access eForms, GE-QS, Philips, Discharge 123 and Accucheck Ral Systems. The savings will increase as the hospital continues to add

more connections from their HIS to the many 3rd party destination systems required by the hospital departments.

With the MetroChicago Health Information Exchange project in full swing, the need for data exchange will be even greater. St. Bernard Hospital will be contributing to patient care efforts and data collaboration by sending ADT, Laboratory and Radiology results to the HIE in early 2013.

*“St. Bernard Hospital is a common example of how our clients are utilizing interface engine technology to streamline operations... Summit Express Connect has not only helped the hospital improve its internal operations, it has also positioned St. Bernard to be a leader in its field moving forward into an era when regional HIEs are becoming ever more popular. We are thrilled that we enabled St. Bernard Hospital to contribute to this important data exchange initiative and we look forward to a long partnership.”*

**– Ted Rossi, CEO, Summit Healthcare**

## SUMMIT HEALTHCARE

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