

Garrett County Memorial Hospital Upgrades and Consolidates Nurse Call System to Critical Alert System's CommonPath™

Jacksonville, FL (December 4, 2012) — Garrett County Memorial Hospital, located in Oakland, MD, has gone live with a new CommonPath™ nurse call system from Critical Alert Systems (CAS). The installation represents an upgrade of their former CommonPath system as well as the replacement of other nurse call systems previously in operation. The project consolidates 10 patient units spanning three floors in the 120,000-square-foot facility, all operating under CommonPath nurse call.

“The focus of this project was twofold,” stated Kelly Gover, RN, Director of Medical/Surgical Services, Garrett County Memorial Hospital. “From a technology standpoint, we wanted to replace multiple old systems with a single nurse call system that would provide state-of-the-art functionality, reliability and workflow. We also wanted a nurse call system that would help us improve patient satisfaction. We’d already had CommonPath in parts of our facility for the past five years, so the decision to consolidate and upgrade with them was easy.”

Highlights of the CommonPath installation at Garrett County Memorial Hospital include:

Backwards compatibility: The ability of CommonPath to provide backwards compatibility for the new system with existing nurse call devices provided a significant cost savings for the hospital.

CommonPath ADT integration: This integration provides allows caregivers to seamlessly integrate the basic admission, discharge and transfer system's patient information into the nurse call system.

Pager integration: The CommonPath nurse call system uses radio pagers to alert caregivers of patient requests, and the installation included a full integration of all of these devices.

Patient request palettes: Working closely with the Garrett nursing staff, CAS customized patient request palettes by nursing unit along with specific workflows customized to individual patient requests.

Call escalations: CAS worked with the hospital team to develop protocols that automatically escalate patient requests if the assigned caregiver does not respond within a set amount of time.

Reporting: Tapping into the information compiled by CommonPath, managers are now able to easily view and run a variety of reports.

About Critical Alert Systems

Critical Alert Systems (CAS) provides healthcare communications technology solutions that help save lives and deliver faster, more efficient patient care to more than 500 hospitals nationwide. The company's software-driven CommonPath™ is the next generation of nurse call systems – a patient-centered, simple-to-use system that is highly configurable and scalable and offers measureable improvement in patient satisfaction and staff efficiency. Through its paging services, CAS provides fast and reliable critical messaging for emergency medical and disaster response teams in 13 states in New England and the central southeastern U.S. CAS also is an equity partner with Mobile Heartbeat™, smartphone technology that provides clinicians instant access to critical patient information. More information is available at www.criticalalert.com and www.mobileheartbeat.com.

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