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Press Release

Source: InterSystems Corporation

Community Hospital Implements One-Stop Information Delivery in Emergency Department with Forerun System Built on InterSystems Ensemble

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CAMBRIDGE, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--InterSystems Corporation and Forerun, Inc. today announced that South Nassau Communities Hospital (SNCH) is using Forerun's Emergency Department (ED) software to improve care delivery processes while cutting wait time in a hospital's ED. The Forerun ED application runs on the [InterSystems Ensemble®](#) rapid integration and development platform.

"ED medicine is practiced in what is often a chaotic environment," said Dr. Gary Greenwald, ED Chief at SNCH, one of Long Island's largest hospitals. "Forerun ED is a software tool that provides clinicians with the information they need to identify delays in real time. With this data, you can find out how long patients are waiting and where processes are being held up. Those processes can then be optimized to cut wait time as much as possible."

The global leader in software for connected healthcare, InterSystems develops and markets innovative database, integration and business intelligence products. Ensemble is a high-performance software platform and advanced messaging engine that is used to develop and integrate mission-critical applications, leverage previous software investments through composite applications, and establish an enterprise service bus or SOA infrastructure. Ensemble-based projects are deployed in healthcare, commercial and government organizations worldwide to solve many demanding HL7 integration problems.

Forerun, an InterSystems application partner, provides integrated clinical support systems, tools, services and devices that enable the clinical team to deliver high quality outcomes, the highest patient satisfaction, at the most efficient cost.

Forerun chose Ensemble as the Forerun ED platform in order to enable seamless integration with hospital-wide applications such as diagnostics, registration, and laboratory systems that provide critical information to ED clinicians.

One-Stop Information Delivery

The 35-bed ED at SNCH is composed of three separate locations, or "pods." The challenges of care delivery in a multi-location ED was a major driver behind the decision to implement the Ensemble-enabled Forerun ED system, according to Janet Shelters, Nurse Manager. "Forerun ED makes it possible for the nursing staff in any location to be able to visualize where ED patients are at any point in time," she explained.

Information displayed on PCs located in each ED pod and on a large plasma screen that is visible in the urgent care pod provides clinicians with up-to-the-minute data on patient location and condition. "Now we can see patients in the waiting room even before they've been triaged and registered," Shelters said. "Someone with chest pain, for example, might be fast-tracked to a physician for immediate treatment even before triage is complete." Effectively real-time information delivery on the number of patients, their locations and the acuity of their conditions also makes it possible to provide staff on an as-needed basis. "Based on information delivered by Forerun ED, for example, we might decide to assign an additional nurse to do triage or send a patient care technician to do an EKG in a private area of the waiting room rather than waiting until the patient is in the appropriate ED pod," she said.

In addition to patient data entered at registration, information from the laboratory, radiology, PACS, medication and administration systems flows into the Forerun ED application as tests are performed and results are available. "The Forerun ED dashboard basically enables 'one-stop shopping' by providing a

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central, constantly updated repository of critical clinical information," Shelters continued. Not only does this make it easier to identify slowdowns during treatment, but it also facilitates more effective communication that is key to eliminating barriers to fast, appropriate care delivery.

Rapid Interface Development, Seamless Integration

Using Ensemble's rapid integration and development environment, Forerun technologists built the necessary HL7 message interfaces needed to integrate all relevant SNCH applications and data repositories. "This is a Web-based system and we chose a SAAS model to run Forerun ED," noted SNCH CIO John Mertz. "As a result, we didn't have to deal with most of the system set up or administration functions. Forerun handles all of that and I have to say that they've been very responsive to our needs...that's one of the key reasons we selected Forerun as our application vendor...they're very interested in providing a quality product rather than in just selling software," Mertz noted.

"The Forerun ED product reflects the fact that it was initially conceived and developed by physicians practicing emergency medicine at a world-renowned medical center," said Ken Wolfe, Forerun CEO. "It provides the clinical information that ED clinicians must have in the real-time environment where they function 24 x 7. The combination of ED-focused clinical functionality with the seamless, rapid integration delivered by Ensemble enables Forerun ED to support care delivery at the level required by today's ED care providers."

"It's a pleasure to work with Forerun to provide a software product that addresses the unique information requirements of the ED so successfully," said Paul Grabscheid, InterSystems Vice President of Strategic Planning. "Forerun ED typifies the innovative thinking at the foundation of product development and delivery that is essential to enable the top-tier care delivery needed and expected by today's healthcare consumers."

About InterSystems

InterSystems Corporation is the worldwide leader in software for connected healthcare. With headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and offices in 22 countries, InterSystems provides innovative products that enable fast development, deployment, and integration of enterprise-class applications. [InterSystems CACHÉ®](#) is a high performance object database that makes applications faster and more scalable. [InterSystems Ensemble®](#) is a rapid integration and development platform that enriches applications with new functionality, and makes them connectable. [InterSystems HealthShare™](#) is a platform that enables the fastest creation of an Electronic Health Record for regional or national health information exchange. [InterSystems DeepSee™](#) is software that makes it possible to embed real-time business intelligence in transactional applications, enabling better operational decisions.

InterSystems is the world's #1 vendor of database and integration technologies for healthcare applications. InterSystems products are used by thousands of hospitals and labs, including all 19 hospitals on the Honor Roll of America's Best Hospitals as rated by U.S. News and World Report. For more information, visit [InterSystems.com](#).

About Forerun

Forerun, Inc. is the leading innovator in real-time workflow management solutions for the hospital emergency department. Forerun ED was developed by physicians, for physicians, to enable emergency department caregivers to accelerate the delivery of patient services during the busiest of times, while enhancing patient safety and the quality of care. Core functionality includes a global departmental view, clinical patient view, discharge and medication reconciliation, physician charting, and quality and business intelligence reporting. Founders include leading emergency medicine practitioners and IT experts associated with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School. Forerun is headquartered in Waltham, Massachusetts. Visit [www.forerunsystems.com](#) for additional information.

About South Nassau Communities Hospital

South Nassau Communities Hospital is one of the region's largest hospitals, with 441 beds, more than 875 physicians and 2,600 employees. Located in Oceanside, NY, the hospital is an acute-care, not-for-profit teaching hospital that provides state-of-the-art care in cardiac, oncologic, orthopedic, bariatric, pain management, mental health and emergency services. In addition to its extensive outpatient specialty centers, South Nassau is a designated Stroke Center, boasts Long Island's only Gamma Knife and provides angioplasty in an emergency or as an elective procedure. South Nassau is designated as a Comprehensive Community Cancer Center by the American College of Surgeons and recognized as a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence by the American Society of Bariatric Surgery. For more information, visit [www.southnassau.org](#).

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