Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center Installs Advanced Pharmacy Automation

Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center installs Swisslog's PillPick system, an automated drug management unit, designed to package, store and dispense medications in bar-coded, unit-dose form. The system reduces medication errors while increasing patient safety and pharmacy productivity.

Denver, CO (PRWEB) December 6, 2007 -- Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, Idaho has installed an advanced automated drug management system, providing the hospital with the capacity to package, store and dispense medications in a safe, efficient manner.

The system, known as PillPick®, is produced by Swisslog, a leading global provider of pharmacy automation solutions for hospitals. The PillPick system automates the packaging, storage and dispensing of tablets, capsules, ampoules, injectables, cups and syringes. Once bulk medications are packaged in bar-coded, unit dose form, they are stored in a high-density pharmacy robot that can accommodate more than 26,000 unit doses.

When meds are needed, unit doses are pulled from the robot into a unit that assembles patient-specific, 24-hour medication orders on a patented, flexible PickRing. Each PickRing can be arranged alphabetically or by order of administration. A large bar-coded tag attached to each PickRing specifies the drug, administration time and other patient-specific information.

"The two features we most value in the Swisslog Robot are the integrated auto-loading capability and the dual robotic arm arrangement. These features contribute to a significant amount of efficiency through multi-tasking operation," according to Larry Munkelt, Director of Pharmacy.

About Saint Alphonsus

Saint Alphonsus is a 365-licensed bed regional medical center serving people throughout the Northwest. Saint Alphonsus emphasizes care that is patient-centered, innovative and community based. Saint Alphonsus focuses on providing services in a spiritual, healing environment, and is renowned for its state-of-the-art digital environment and pioneering technologies, award-winning clinical services, a nationally accredited Life Flight program and the region's Trauma Center. For information about Saint Alphonsus, visit www.saintalphonsus.org.

About Swisslog

Swisslog is a global provider of integrated logistics solutions for warehouses, distribution centers and hospitals. Its comprehensive services portfolio ranges from building complex warehouses and distribution centers to implementing Swisslog's own software. In addition Swisslog provides intra-company logistics solutions for hospitals as well as software and consulting services in the field of supply chain management.

Swisslog's solutions optimize customers' production, logistics and distribution processes in order to increase flexibility, responsiveness and quality of service while minimizing logistics costs. With years of experience in the development and implementation of integrated logistics solutions, Swisslog provides the expertise that customers in more than 50 countries around the world rely on.
Headquartered in Buchs/Aarau, Switzerland, Swisslog currently employs around 2,000 staff in 20 countries worldwide. The group's parent company, Swisslog Holding AG, is listed on SWX Swiss Exchange (security number: 1232462, Telekurs: SLOG, Reuters: SLOG.S). For more information, visit www.swisslog.com.

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