

# Medical: Supporting the local healthcare community with the Epson Discproducer PP-100

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## case study



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Section Chief of Radiology

For a major hospital located in the centre of Matsumoto-City, Nagano Prefecture, Japan, the provision of medical services for the local community is only one of its key roles. The other, serving as a central facility to support other hospitals and medical service providers.

Increasingly, role-sharing and collaboration between medical facilities is being recognised as crucial in delivering a broad range of professional and effective medical services to the community. For this hospital, a main collaborative function is the creation and maintenance of a unique regional medical coordination system; and playing a role in that is the Epson Discproducer PP-100.

### Overview

Located in the centre of Matsumoto-City, Nagano Prefecture, Japan, a central hospital provides much needed support to surrounding hospitals and other medical service providers.

### Supporting leading-edge medical technology

As the medical industry continues to take full advantage of new digital technologies, the ability to manage the massive growth in files generated by devices such as Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and Multi-Slice Computed Tomography (CT) scanners has become a very real challenge.

### Challenges

- Better manage the distribution of large numbers of image files generated by advanced MRI and Multi-Slice CT Scanners
- Streamline the workflow involved in generating medical scan images

For the hospital, taking advantage of the PP-100’s straightforward, high-performance disc duplication and labelling has meant a more streamlined workflow in the management and distribution of such files.

### Solution

Epson Discproducer PP-100

In a typical case, a patient referred to the hospital by a local medical clinic may need to undergo a Multi-Slice CT or MRI scan, which can result in a large number of images that need to be sent back to the referring doctor. To eliminate the time and costs involved in traditional film development and delivery, the hospital now utilises a PP-100 to extract image data that has been generated by MRI and CT scanners and stored in a PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System) server.

### Benefits

- Low cost of unit allowed for the purchase of a second Discproducer
- Cost and time savings achieved over traditional film development and delivery
- The hospital has been able to improve further its level of service to the community

Once the relevant images have been burnt to the disc, the PP-100 prints a label and the disc is given to the patient for delivery to the referring doctor.

According to one of the hospital’s radiology technicians, the number of images taken during a scan increased dramatically following the installation of a Multi-Slice CT scanner. “With the PP-100, though, managing the resulting data files has become much easier than it was when we relied on film,” he says.

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### Ease of operation

Initially, the hospital implemented a single PP-100, located in the server room near to the PACS server. While this represented a logical placement, it raised concerns about timeliness due to the fact that radiology staff needed to be constantly on the move between the server room and radiology department.

As a result, a second PP-100 was introduced to the radiology department and connected to one of the department's networked computers. Now, as soon as a patient's scan is complete, a radiology staff member uses the bundled Epson Total Disc Maker

software to retrieve and write the correct image files to disc. The software is then used to create and print a label featuring key information such as patient name, referring doctor and date/time of scan.

"The relatively low cost of the PP-100 meant that we were able to bring in a second unit and further streamline the entire process," the technician says.

In commenting on the role of the PP-100 at the hospital, the Section Chief of Radiology says: "One of the advantages of the PP-100 is that we're able to use readily available CDs. More importantly, though, the reliability of the unit, its ease-of-use and quality of duplication and label printing, has given us the ability to be just that bit more efficient in supporting the local healthcare community."

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