



Partner Success Story

Rapid Application Development

ST. LUKE'S METHODIST HOSPITAL GETS A DOSE OF ALPHA FOR HEALTHY APPLICATIONS

St. Luke's Methodist Hospital

“Thanks to the hidden power of Xbasic and Xdialog in Alpha, I can develop a powerful application in a fraction of the time it would take using any other language, and at a fraction of the cost.”

 Martin Cole, Owner, Cole Custom Programming

Customer Situation

St. Luke's Respiratory Care department was struggling to maintain a current, updated database application that served a hectic hospital environment, and complied with HIPAA and other regulations. St. Luke's nurses would begin entering data, only to be called away from their work station, leaving records incomplete. The hospital needed a self-maintaining system that multiple nurses could access from multiple workstations. St. Luke's also wanted the system to provide a billing platform, manage scheduling, and give detailed data to therapists and physicians. In addition, the application had to run on St. Luke's hospital server, and give nurses 24/7 access. Perhaps most challenging, development costs had to fit St. Luke's modest project budget.

Partner Solution

St. Luke's contacted Cole Custom Programming's head programmer, Martin Cole, for a solution. With over 40 years of experience in client accounting, database development, and computer programming, Cole knew an operational application with the capabilities St. Luke's required could cost tens of thousands of dollars—well outside the hospital's budget. To meet the hospital's cost restraints, Cole chose Alpha Five. Its professional visual programming tools helped Cole build St. Luke's application in a fraction of the time it would have taken had he chosen another platform, which dramatically reduced cost. In particular, Cole leveraged Alpha's Xbasic language and Xdialog building tools to rapidly prototype and finalize the application design for St. Luke's specific needs.

Solution Overview

Customer Name:

St. Luke's Methodist Hospital

Customer Profile: St. Luke's Methodist Hospital offers a wide array of health care services to patients and their families, including birth care, emergency services, minimally invasive surgery, physical medicine and rehab, and women's health.

Location: Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Industries: Healthcare

Business Situation:

St. Luke's Hospital Respiratory Care department needed an application that would make it easier for nurses to manage daily tasks and data entry. It was common for them to be pulled away from data entry in the fast-paced hospital environment, leaving records open and vulnerable to inadvertent changes or loss. The application also had to comply with HIPAA and other regulations.

Benefits:

The result: a rapid, intuitive, seamless, unbreakable system that addresses literally all of the hospital's challenges, within budget. Its self-reliant design lets respiratory nurses leave a record in the middle of modifying it, without having to worry about losing or compromising data. The reliable system also maintains and provides detailed patient data for therapists and physicians, and is available around the clock to all staff from the hospital server. Moreover, the program is scalable, letting multiple nurses work simultaneously from any one of 200 available workstations. In fact, the new system has been so successful, St. Luke's has extended it to the courier department for billing, and created a program that helps nurses automatically manage their irregular schedules.

For More Information:

Alpha Software

781-229-4500
AlphaSoftware.com

St. Luke's Hospital

319-369-7211
StLukesCR.org

Solution: St. Luke's contacted Martin Cole of Cole Custom Programming to create a solution. Cole used Alpha Five to develop cost-effective applications for St. Luke's modest budget. In little time, Cole built, implemented, and deployed a comprehensive daily data management system for the Respiratory Care department.

Products:

- Alpha Five.

Benefits:

- Increases database security and sustainability in a hectic hospital environment.
- Manages nurses' sporadic schedules with fast and easy to use systems.
- Offers a scalable design that lets multiple users access the system at once across some 200 workstations.
- Maintains and provides detailed patient data for therapists and physicians.
- Enables rapid application development and deployment through powerful visual programming tools.
- Delivers quality applications in a fraction of the time, at a fraction of competitors' prices.