

Harmony Healthcare IT

Harmonizing Legacy Data with Active Archiving

The volume of health data is increasing at exponential rates, pressure testing silos of clinical, financial, and administrative systems. As older software is replaced with new, the data must be retained to meet regulatory requirements. A challenge, however, is that the migration of 100 percent of the legacy data directly into newly implemented EHR or ERP software is costly and complex.

Harmony Healthcare IT, an award-winning legacy data management firm, offers healthcare organizations an alternative to full data conversion. The company extracts and migrates key data elements to the new software and archives the rest of the legacy patient, employee and business records—consolidating data from the disparate, out-of-production systems. Harmony Healthcare IT makes the information accessible directly from its cloud-based platform, HealthData Archiver®, and via single sign-on from the new software. What differentiates the firm is not only its understanding of release of information, revenue cycle and clinical workflows, but also its ability to harmonize data silos, making the information secure, compliant, accessible and usable. “We offer a compelling and comprehensive approach for healthcare organizations to preserve vital information,” says Tom Liddell, CEO of Harmony Healthcare IT.

The company’s vision is to enhance the healthcare landscape by preserving vital information that strengthens care delivery and improves lives. Since 2006, data analysts at the firm have extracted, migrated, and retained billions of records and petabytes of data from over 350 different clinical, financial and administrative software brands.

When assessing and analyzing the risk tied to a client’s use of multiple legacy systems, Harmony Healthcare IT helps to identify inventories and

prioritize decommissioning schedules. With a standard, eight-step plan for migrating records from source systems to a consolidated platform, the firm productively disrupts the status quo of read-only EHRs, revenue cycle systems and any other business applications—no matter what the data type is. Data gets organized according to role-based security protocols so that access to legacy records is simple yet secure.

Liddell notes that when hospitals, health systems and physician networks undergo merger or acquisition, they need a safe and seamless way to rationalize systems and consolidate data. To achieve this, Harmony Healthcare IT works with IT stakeholders to formulate a strategy that will lower the maintenance costs of legacy systems and make records easily accessible for release of information, consolidated clinical viewing, regulatory compliance, research, and analytics. “We are a unifying force for clients seeking expansion of their health enterprises,” says Liddell, commenting on the capability of his company to empower the healthcare industry.

Liddell cites a case study in which a client was faced with decommissioning an inventory of legacy systems, including an AS/400. The old technology was not only increasing cost, labor and risk but making it difficult to instantaneously access complete records from a clinical, HIM or eDiscovery perspective. Their search for the right, experienced vendor led them to Harmony Healthcare IT. After evaluating the client’s full legacy system portfolio and developing a strategy, Harmony Healthcare IT securely extracted, migrated and archived the mainframe and other legacy data. Their easy-to-use, active archive was readily adopted by users across the enterprise. The solution broke down data silos, eliminated antiquated infrastructure, cut costs, and better fortified defenses against outsider attacks and insider threats.

A journey that started over a decade ago to allow healthcare organizations to achieve compliance with record retention requirements has now reached a pivotal point for Harmony Healthcare IT as discrete data archiving opens up possibilities for advancing what really matters—the capability for analytical insights to improve overall patient care.

In order to stay ahead of the ongoing explosion of healthcare data, Harmony Healthcare IT will further augment its offerings. By investing in emerging technology such as artificial intelligence and machine learning, the company seeks to make its ETL process more efficient and the vast stores of legacy data primed for analysis and re-use by its growing client base. **CR**



Tom Liddell