

KODAK DRYVIEW 8900 LASER IMAGER



Florida Hospital's DRYVIEW 8900
System Improves Throughput,
Image Quality for Output of Digital
Imaging Studies, Including FFDM

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SARASOTA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Sarasota Memorial Hospital in Sarasota, Fla., prints 5,000 sheets of radiographic film a month to satisfy the needs of its radiologists, referring physicians and patients. Since most of the output occurs during a few peak periods, the workload was overwhelming the radiology department's existing high-volume printer. However, the department's new Kodak DryView 8900 laser imager handles the workload with ease.

"The DryView 8900 system is amazingly fast. It can produce up to 200 films an hour, which significantly enhances throughput during peak periods," notes Andrea Blanken, (RT) MBA/HCM, Sarasota Memorial's Coordinator of Files/Web Distribution.

The DryView 8900 system provides three on-line film drawers and supports five film sizes. At Sarasota Memorial, most of the printing is done on 14 x 17-inch film, but the film size flexibility is appreciated since the department's file room prints images from MR, CT and ultrasound systems, in addition to general radiology studies captured with computed radiography systems.

Although the hospital has installed PACS, it currently prints some imaging studies for radiologists' review and it distributes film images to more than 100 referring

physicians. Referring physicians expect to receive images within 24 to 48 hours after an exam is performed. "We need the dramatic increase in speed offered by the DryView 8900 system in order to meet these delivery goals," notes Blanken.

SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS IN IMAGE QUALITY

Image quality, especially for CT and MR images is also significantly improved since installing the DryView 8900 system, according to Debbie Bohanon, Operations Manager for the Radiology Department.

"We see a marked improvement in image quality for all imaging studies, but it's especially noticeable on CT and MR studies. Many of our radiologists elect to read MR studies on film, and they report that the sharper images

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Kodak DryView 8900 laser imager

generated by the DryView 8900 system provide improved diagnostic confidence,” she notes.

The DryView 8900 system is the world’s only 100 megapixel dry laser imager—it produces 650 dpi on all film sizes: 14 x 17, 14 x 14, 11 x 14, 10 x 12 and 8 x 10 inches.

SUPPORTS OUTPUT FROM TWO FFDM SYSTEMS

An optional upgrade equips the DryView 8900 system to generate radiographic film with up to 3.6 D-max from full-field digital mammography (FFDM) systems and other approved digital mammography modalities. Sarasota Memorial has two FFDM systems at its main facility and imaging clinics.

“We were printing these imaging studies on a Kodak DryView 8610 system, but the DryView 8900 system is much

faster and more convenient," Bohanon notes. "It also supports 10 x 12-inch film, which our physicians have requested."

The DryView 8900 system outputs 650 dpi mammography images while maintaining a throughput of up to 200 films per hour. The DryView 8900 system's mammography upgrade provides test patterns that can be printed on demand to aid in the stringent quality control required by accreditation and regulatory agencies.

"Every morning we print a quality control test strip. With the DryView 8900 system, it just takes three or four steps on a touch screen to generate the test strip. It's more accurate and more efficient than our previous process. It's so automated that our staff can initiate the test and then give films to the technologists to record in our log. Previously technologists needed to perform the entire testing process prior to seeing patients," she explains.

Bohanon sums up the advantages of the DryView 8900 system: "We achieve exceptional image quality on every image, and it's fast and dependable. The DryView 8900 system is an excellent solution for facilities like ours that need high-quality radiographic film images for radiologists and referring physicians—with maximum speed and productivity."

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