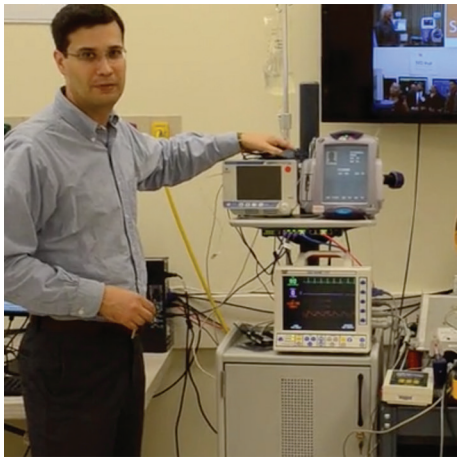
MICRO FOCUS

Customer Success Story

Dimensions RM



MD PnP

Micro Focus® Dimensions RM: Accelerating definition of medical device interoperability

Overview

The MD PnP program (**MdPnP.org**), established in 2004, is a leader in the development of the concepts and capabilities necessary for the integrated clinical environments of the future. This team of biomedical and software engineers has been working with clinicians to accelerate the adoption of medical device interoperability by changing expectations through demonstration together with the adoption of a set of interoperability building blocks: use cases, standards, and open research conducted in a neutral lab environment.

"We are collaborating with medical practitioners and device manufacturers to visualize, organize and prioritize the requirements that will define the future of device interoperability. For MDPnP.org the requirements are the product, and Serena (now part of Micro Focus) has provided the perfect wrapper."

RICHARD SCHRENKER
Clinical Engineer

For a decade the requirements for this program were managed by a brilliant and dedicated MD using what he hoped might be the latest version in a long line of Excel spreadsheets. In 2013 the team began the search for a better requirements management solution; in March of 2014 MD PnP selected Dimensions RM. Six months later, the team used RM to review, approve, and publish the first version of "System Requirements from a Clinical User Perspective."

"Now," says Mr. Richard Schrenker, clinical engineer, "we know where our requirements are."

Challenge

A patient lying in intensive care can be connected to as many as 15 devices, each one—individually—logging and interpreting data; some silently and some with a whoosh, a beep, or a ping. Alerts bring clinical staff running, often for nothing, while the real alerts, those that might be raised by an immediate and automated reading of the combined data, do not come. The problem is that the ability to combine that data, the infamous 'patient black box,' has not yet been realized. The "Medical Device Plug and Play" interoperability program is

MD PnP

At a Glance

- **Industry**
  Software & Technology
- **Location**
  Undisclosed
- **Challenge**
  The project required a solution capable of collecting requirements using an application that would be both accessible and useful to doctors, nurses and software engineers.
- **Solution**
  Use Dimensions RM to increase collaboration and requirements visibility.
- **Results**
  + Visualize, organize, and prioritize the requirements of device interoperability
  + Support collaboration offline to meet the needs of international standards groups and online for the engineers and clinicians
  + Provide facilities for baselining publications and releases
  + Maintain traceability between use cases and test cases

> **"Now we know where our requirements are."**
>
> **RICHARD SCHRENKER**
> Clinical Engineer

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working toward eliminating technology related issues through the definition and adoption of open standards and technologies that will result in ICE (Integrated Clinical Environments).

Those involved realize that after years of building and testing, it is the requirements that will define their final product. They knew that they required a solution capable of collecting requirements, from high-level clinical to technical system detail, using an application that would be both accessible and useful to doctors and nurses and software engineers.

Solution

Most requirement management tools focus on document management. Typically, it is a document that is imported, broken down, and segmented into information, requirements, and attributes before it is reviewed and managed by analysts and software engineers. Such a solution would never work for MD PnP.

This team needed to define and maintain requirements that could be collected and reviewed using methods that would maintain accessibility to medical professionals, regulatory and standards groups, as well as hardware and software engineers. And that wasn't all; they needed to:

- Provide facilities for maintaining IP rights acceptable to device manufacturers
- Support collaboration offline to meet the needs of international standards groups and online for the engineers and clinicians sitting in the lab in Cambridge, Massachusetts
- Provide facilities for baselining publications and releases
- Maintain traceability between use cases and test cases

Someone said, "This is all so clear" just halfway through the first presentation, and before the month was out, the decision was made.

Results

With help from RM professional services, the organization moved their requirements from Microsoft to Micro Focus control in five days. At the end of 10 days team members were reviewing and updating requirements, basking in the ability to visualize the use case breakdown, to check history, and to show traceability.

Senior members of the MD PnP team presented their solution at Serena (now part of Micro Focus) xChange 2015. They are now working with standards groups and medical partners to expand the use of Dimensions RM in the medical device community.

Micro Focus
UK Headquarters
United Kingdom
+44 (0) 1635 565200

U.S. Headquarters
Rockville, Maryland
301 838 5000
877 772 4450

Additional contact information and office locations:
www.microfocus.com