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Top
ADVANTAGES
OF COMBINING
Fire RMS and ePCR



So...you are thinking about buying a fire records management system.

Maybe you are on paper and looking for a way to better organize everything, or perhaps your current system doesn't quite live up to your needs. Whatever the case, 



 it is worth considering the benefits of a fire RMS that also handles ePCR in the same system seamlessly.

In this eBook, you'll hear from others who have taken the same step to streamline their records into one electronic system and what advantages are available for your department.

“ We are, for the first time in our existence, on one single program so it's been pretty neat to come together as a group and start dialing this in. ”

said Scott Draper, Deputy Chief of EMS for Northwest Fire District (NWFD) in Tucson, Arizona. NWFD responds to approximately 13,500 calls annually, servicing 144 square miles.

And from an analyst's perspective, Chris Hughes of Bellingham Fire Department in Washington – a mid-size organization with about 18,000 runs annually – states that his agency looked for a new software solution that combined their RMS and ePCR software, because as Hughes says,

“ We knew we wanted a better system than what we had. ”

Advantage #1:

One point for support.

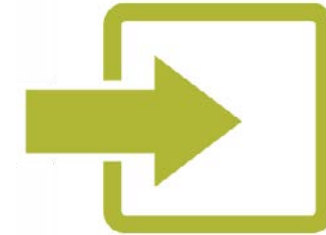


When you need support, it's a lot easier to chase down one point of contact instead of a chain of vendors. In-house support that knows the product you are using is important.

Working with a vendor that invests in its support team and is there to help when you need it most can go a long way. Outside of general help with the system, continuing learning opportunities such as webinars, conferences, a technical documentation platform and in-person trainings are great options to help staff learn at their own pace.

Advantage #2:

Single sign-on.



Do you find yourself going between fire and EMS calls, or maybe calls that involve both? Logging in and out of two systems is just another delay and point of frustration, especially when you are trying to keep track of multiple logins and passwords. It's time better spent focusing on your work.

In any system, you will want the ability to manage permissions to limit access to different areas without having to go into each system. With centralized administration of an all-in-one system, you can add qualified fire and EMS crew to their roles without having to switch back-and-forth or creating separate accounts for each. One crew member can access either or both systems as assigned permissions.

Advantage #3:

Easier to learn and use.



When both ePCR and RMS programs are on a singular platform, built by the same company, it ensures they not only look and function the same but that your solutions will work seamlessly. Learning one, translates to the other.

It is important to know if the solution was actually made by the same company or if they are disparate systems under one parent company. Software acquisitions can often lead to adopted technologies functioning independently of one another under one umbrella, which can lead to frustration for crews and administrators alike.

According to Hughes: **“ I had seen the pain we had in the current system and in other systems where you have an ePCR that looks completely different than the RMS system that looks completely different from the reporting engine and anytime you have any actors move between the two, it was a completely separate training task. ”**

Advantage #4:

You don't have to double document.



Think about a fire call that also has EMS patients.

How often do you want to type in the same address?

This is just one example of how a combined system can help reduce the amount of double documentation from having separate systems.

Advantage #5:

All your data in one place.



For reporting and analysis, having everything together also makes it easier to access the data in a single reporting tool that is built for the data you collect.

According to Hughes: The ability to get data out and do analytics behind it.

“ This goes back to the all-in-one system – I didn’t want to have to set up interfaces between RMS and ePCR and CAD and all of these single things – I just wanted a [single] system. ”

STILL USING PAPER?

Maybe you’ve been holding off replacing the traditional paper documents for fire. That means you’re missing out on all that technology has to offer...

- Operations Management
- Secure File Storage / Backup
- CAD Integration and Reduced Data Entry
- Validation
- Reports

AS YOU REVIEW your current operations and look for efficiencies, be sure to understand the needs of your department and how medics or firefighters use the system in the field. Interoperability is not a thing of the future – it can be accomplished now, starting with combining your RMS and ePCR management and datasets into one system.

ABOUT

ImageTrend, Inc. is dedicated to connecting life's most important data in the healthcare and emergency response community. ImageTrend delivers software solutions, data analytics and services for EMS, hospitals, community paramedicine (CP), critical care, fire, and preparedness to enable fully integrated patient-centric healthcare and public safety. ImageTrend's commitment to innovation, its clients, and providing world-class implementation and support is unsurpassed. Based in Lakeville, Minn., ImageTrend combines business analysis, creative design and data-driven architecture to offer scalable solutions and strategies for today and the future.

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