

Healthbox Launches Revolutionary Way for Doctors and Healthcare Providers to Manage their Business

Healthbox—France

With ORiNOCO, Healthbox Launches Revolutionary Way for Doctors and Healthcare Providers in France to Manage their Business

The Client: Healthbox is a full-service communications provider in France. The company markets office hardware and software tools to doctors and provides internet solution packages such as web connectivity and internet access. One of its primary products is the Healthbox.

The Opportunity: The French government has implemented a new program called the “Smart Card” (Sesam Vitale). The Smart Card—which resembles a credit card—contains all of a patient’s administrative records and billing information. In the coming years, all French people will be required to have a Sesam Vitale card, and the new Sesam Vitale Card 2 will contain medical records.

The Smart Card alleviates administrative paperwork for both the patient and the physician. Patients like it because they no longer have to mail their health documents and bills to the government. Physicians like it because it speeds up the payment process and will give them a complete overview of their patients’ medical histories.

As a part of the program, the French government now asks all physicians to have an Internet connection to enable them to upload patients’ billing and treatment information. Because doctors’ salaries are partially paid for by the government fund, it is in the doctors’ interest to quickly submit billing information and track it efficiently. 50,000 French physicians will be using this system.

The Process: Following an examination, the patient’s diagnosis, treatment, prescriptions, and fees are input into a computer. The information is both recorded on the Smart Card and also uploaded to the central government for recording and payment.

ORiNOCO Solution: Synergies & Solutions has launched a solution for physicians and healthcare providers called the Healthbox. The Healthbox package includes accounting software, an Internet connection with Liberty Surf (an ISP), authorization to connect to the healthbox.fr Internet site, a warranty, a smart card drive, and other optional hardware and equipment. Some of the most popular optional components are the ORiNOCO RG-1000 wireless Internet access point devices and ORiNOCO PC card radios.

There are 2 markets for this product: 1) private, small and medium size medical clinics, and 2) larger hospitals. The primary target market is the small and medium size medical facilities that employ a handful of physicians.

Impact: The Healthbox application revolutionizes the way doctors function in the office. It gives medical centers a practical and inexpensive way to adhere to the French government’s requirements of Internet access. It is a practical solution because it is simple to install and relocate, can be easily accessed in multiple locations, and can be conveniently shared by many physicians. It is an inexpensive solution because the hardware and software itself is modestly priced, and it saves money by eliminating the need

for multiple Internet connections. And since the RG-1000 can share a single Internet connection, up to 30 physicians can get on the Internet at the same time—and they can all share the same Internet access account.

Without the RG-1000, doctors have limited mobility within the office, increased difficulties with relocating equipment, cannot share Internet access between a group of doctors, cannot share files between doctors in the clinic, and would need to set up a wired network. The RG-1000, as a part of the Healthbox, eliminates all of these problems.

The RG-1000 Residential Gateway access point functions as a base station. ORiNOCO PC Card radios are inserted into notebook and desktop computers that can be located anywhere throughout the clinic, even outdoors. This gives physicians full mobility within their offices and frees them from having to work only at their desks.

Application: Synergies & Solutions offers new services and hardware to French physicians with a complete bundle solution based on the ORiNOCO SOHO Solution. The 'Healthbox Application' provides wireless connection to the internet and between users. The RG-1000 enables multiple users to share the same line. This reduces cost, since only one Internet connection is needed per medical clinic. It gives physicians tremendous flexibility because they are no longer tied down to a single location to access the Internet and download patient data. They can plug the base system into any phone line within the clinic.

Benefits: The ORiNOCO system enables up to 30 users to share the same Internet connection and to connect anywhere in a small office. It transmits through walls and floors and provides a range of up to 1500 feet. The RG-1000 Residential Gateway access point acts as a central base station in a small business. It includes a built-in 56K modem that can be directly plugged into a phone line, and a 10baseT Ethernet jack for connecting to an existing wired Ethernet network, an xDSL, or a cable modem Internet connection.

As the Internet spreads in use throughout France, doctors will be able to install RGs at home so that they can access information outside of their offices as well. Synergies & Solutions sells a PC with a removable drive that works well with the RG-1000 to provide home access to physicians.

Why ORiNOCO?: The ORiNOCO SOHO solution is the world's first wireless 'LAN in a box,' providing the fastest wireless connection with LAN and Internet. It is easy to install, inexpensive, flexible, and interoperable with other IEEE 802.11b compliant wireless devices. In addition, there is no RF interference with medical equipment.



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