Legally Compliant and Cost-Efficient Archiving in the Healthcare Sector: PoINT Storage Manager in Use at Diakonie in Südwestfalen
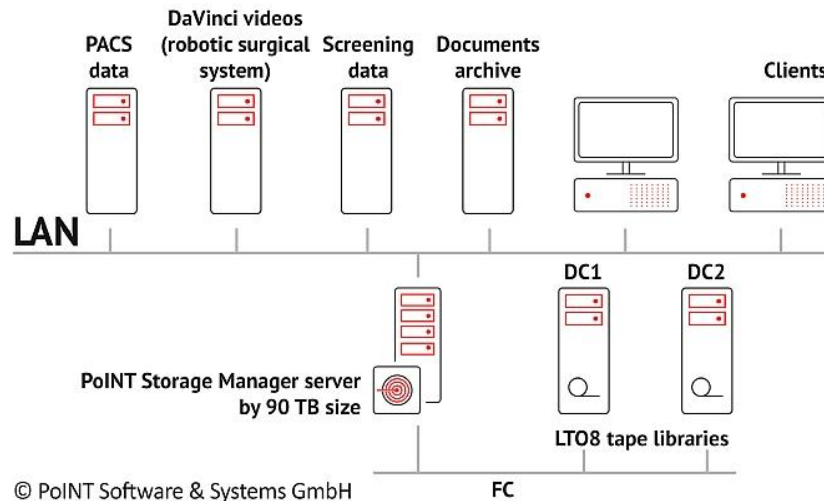
Siegen. Diakonie in Südwestfalen gGmbH counters rising hardware costs in the field of archive storage by introducing automated archiving on tape with PoINT Storage Manager. Thus, it also benefits from important functions for legally compliant archiving of medical documents.

The Diakonie in Südwestfalen stores, among others, important medical data from surgical robots, from X-ray PACS and mammography screening. For diagnostic purposes, this data must be available reliably and quickly. At the same time, it must be archived in a legally compliant manner for the long term.

With the redundant storage of data on hard disks, it was possible to ensure the availability of the data. However, there were no more extensive functions for long-term archiving of the data. In addition, the lifespan of the storage medium used was relatively short in view of the long retention periods. This required frequent, high-volume migrations with the associated costs for new storage hardware.

In PoINT Storage Manager, Diakonie in Südwestfalen found a flexible and scalable solution for legally compliant data archiving. With the introduction of the software, the storage infrastructure could be sustainably optimized. The Diakonie now uses a two-tier storage architecture with primary and archive storage tiers. On the archive storage level, tape is used which, as a particularly cost-effective and durable storage medium, is ideally suited for long-term archiving. PoINT Storage Manager automatically moves the data

to the archive storage. There, the software with its integrated features ensures legally compliant archiving and meets the retention periods.

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"In addition to expanding from one archive (PACS) to four archives, we were able to decouple applications and archiving. We now have more functions available for archiving", says Hans-Georg Ommer, Head of Technical IT at Diakonie in Südwestfalen gGmbH. End users can still access the data quickly and transparently – this is essential, especially for medical diagnostics. Ommer expresses his confidence with regard to growing data volumes: "For future extensions we remain flexible in all directions with PoINT Storage Manager."

More information at www.point.de in our Case Study.

About Diakonie in Südwestfalen gGmbH:
Diakonie in Südwestfalen, headquartered in Siegen, is the largest health and social service provider in the three-border region of North Rhine-Westphalia, Hesse and Rhineland-Palatinate. From birth to the end of life, it is there for people who are sick and in need of help and care. With 4,000 employees, the company is a major employer in around 120 facilities at more than 40 locations in the region. Every year, 100,000 people are treated, nursed and cared for here. As a professional service provider, Diakonie in Südwestfalen links numerous diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitation and nursing units. These include hospitals, medical care centers, homes for the elderly, outpatient nursing services along with a meal service, a daycare center for children, outpatient rehabilitation centers, residential homes for people with disabilities, assistance for homeless people, a hospice, various counseling centers and its own nursing training center.

About PoINT:
PoINT Software & Systems GmbH is specialized in the development and distribution of software products for storage, management and archiving of data. Our data & storage management solutions offer an easy and efficient integration of different storage technologies and systems in consideration of enterprise requirements. PoINT products allow optimized usage of storage systems and help to reduce costs and issues caused by data growth. The software solutions fulfil compliance and archiving requirements and provide independence from storage technologies and vendors.

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