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Life Healthcare is one of South Africa's largest private healthcare providers, offering world-class medical treatment at over 45 South African hospitals and clinics.

Nationwide, the group processes over 80,000 patients daily. Every patient submits at least three paper-based documents – which can be registration forms, medical reports, personal identification and medical aid documentation among others.

Diagnosing the problem

Capturing all of this information at registration was cumbersome and Life Healthcare wanted to speed up the process while still guaranteeing that the data was captured accurately. In addition, there was not a great deal of space in the hospital's registration areas so any equipment procured had to be compact.

The right treatment

By scanning the patient documentation at check-in, Life Healthcare would be able to access information and convert it to electronic format, quickly and accurately.

Patient information generally consists of two types of documents: A4-sized forms and other loose papers; and smaller (sometimes bound) identification documents, such as ID books and medical aid membership cards.

Processing these two formats efficiently led to the recommendation of two types of scanners:

The Avison AV220C2 – a compact, desktop scanner with an auto document feed. It is ideal for scanning loose A4 size papers such as forms and letters and can process 35 pages per minute. Life Healthcare acquired three AV220C2 scanners in **each** of its hospitals.

The Avison AVA6+ – a small, space-saving flatbed scanner which is perfect for scanning small documents up to A6 size and scans in just three seconds. Two of these scanners were provided to **each** hospital.

Both scanners are small and compact, taking up little space in patient registration areas, as well as in behind-the-scenes administration offices. Combination scanners (which include sheet-fed and flatbed scanning in one unit) are available, but these are generally large machines and there simply wasn't space for them. Choosing the two smaller scanners not only saved space and was a more affordable option, it meant that should one be out of operation, the other would still be available.

With preset functions and one-button controls, the AV220C2 and AVA6+ are also extremely easy to use.

An added extra

To make the scanning even more efficient, the system is able to tell which scanner has a document to be scanned on it. One computer was connected to both scanners and a dual driver USB hub means that the system can sense which scanner to activate. This means that staff can simply click a single 'scan' button on their computers and the correct scanner will automatically start operating.

Predefined settings (e.g. resolution, orientation, etc.) were set up in addition to make the system even easier to use.

All in all, the Avison scanners turned out to be just what the doctor ordered!

Technical information:

The Avison products that Life Healthcare have invested in:

Avison AV220C2 desktop sheet-fed scanners. For scanning forms and other loose A4 size documents.

Avison AVA6-Plus flatbed scanners. For scanning small official documents, such as ID books and medical aid membership cards.



