

## The Business Continuity Plan: Creating a Secure Imaging Infrastructure

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By Sarah Lamberti

*As imaging departments become increasingly digital, many are using different components of data storage, protection, migration and archiving to fit different pieces of the business continuity puzzle together to provide a seamless and continual flow of images and data across the enterprise while providing secure backups without impacting patient care. Having a plan is the first step.*



### Seamless, continual data transmission

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Like many regional medical centers using locum tenens coverage for diagnostic reads, the 220-bed Charlotte Regional Medical Center in Punta Gorda, Fla., found uninterrupted workflow and quick report turn-around times to challenging.

Additionally, proprietary communications blockages between different PACS and RIS applications at other HMA hospitals resulted in the inability to transmit images and patient information between sites for consults or workload balancing.

The medical center contracted with teleradiology provider E-Rad Solutions to tackle night-time reads, gaining the benefits of the MEDxConnect system from Compressus. According to Gail Hopkins, director of medical imaging at Charlotte Regional, they quickly realized the value of the Compressus system when the RIS they installed in March went down for more than 15 hours.

By kicking off orders to Compressus, radiologists offsite were able to dictate with voice recognition into a separate system. Once the RIS was operational again, all it took was copying and pasting cases from the Compressus server back into the RIS.

“Having a downtime plan is a wonderful thing,” she concludes. “But I did not have a RIS. The only way we maintained operations was because we were able to push images to the Compressus system.”