

NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

GPS COMES TO HALIFAX REGIONAL

How to Find Pieces of Equipment in One Simple Computer Step

ROANOKE RAPIDS, NC – (June 9, 2008) – Imagine having Russell Heese’s job. He’s responsible for several thousand clinical devices spread over 268,000 square feet at Halifax Regional.

As Manager of Support Services for the Medical Center, Russell and his crew now operate with a lower stress level. That’s because they have a GPS –like system in place to help track clinical equipment. It is called RadarFind.

“Until now, we have spent countless hours looking for available wheelchairs, gurneys, pumps, blood pressures machines and the thousands of other items needed for patient care,” Heese said. “With RadarFind, the computer does that for us.”

Not only can employees find equipment, they can tell if it is being used, if it needs to be repaired or even cleaned. RadarFind also tells you when one of the hundreds of IV pumps needs a calibration check and where to find the pump, Heese explained.

RadarFind uses automatic indoor location technology. Every piece of clinical equipment in the hospital has been tagged. When a tag passes the scanner, it is logged into the system, tracing the exact location of the equipment in transport.

“We are more efficient in our use of time and have better management of our inventory,” Heese reports. “However, the biggest benefit is to patient care. Patients receive clinical equipment clean and in good working order faster than they did in the past, and our clinical staff has more time to spend caring for patients.”

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About Halifax Regional: *Halifax Regional Medical Center is licensed for 206-beds, including psychiatric and nursery. A non-profit organization, Halifax Regional is fully accredited by the Joint Commission. For more information, visit www.halifaxregional.us.*