

> Consolidate Your Cardiology Imaging

A world-class cardiology image and information management solution





Cardiology is about more than images – it's about all of the information about a patient – from imaging to other patient clinical information such as ECG waveforms, hemodynamic measurements, radiology exams, and, especially, prior cardiology visits. Cardiologists need to see all of this patient information in order to deliver the best care.

Because your success in cardiology is crucial, you need to streamline your department's infrastructure and workflow to improve patient care.

Unique Challenges

If you're a cardiologist, you want immediate access to a complete record of your patient's cardiac file – and you want it where you're working. You don't want to have to toggle between systems or be forced to move to different locations to find patient information. You also want to be able to generate complete cardiology reports efficiently. This means having all of the information available prepopulated in your reports, which eliminates duplicate data entry and clerical errors – and being able to finalize your reports from any location.

If you're running a cardiology department, you want to standardize systems for each area as much as possible. Many hospitals have a system for the cath lab, a system for echocardiography, and still other systems for vascular ultrasound and nuclear medicine. Combine this with different clinical reporting mechanisms for the various areas and you have a complex, disjointed workflow that can slow down patient care and contribute to physician dissatisfaction.

Having multiple systems also makes it near impossible for you to continuously report on departmental workflow and, ultimately, improve quality initiatives such as participation in the American College of Cardiology (ACC) Registry Reporting for accreditation.

If you're the CIO of a hospital or integrated delivery network (IDN), you want to invest in a system that can integrate well with your other systems – rather than invest in yet another proprietary system. Ideally, you want to begin standardizing on a vendor-neutral platform that will enable you to grow – so you don't have to worry about time- and resource-intensive data migrations in the future.

Unique Solution

Merge has been in the business of image and information management for more than 30 years. Our unmatched track

record in cardiology includes the first digital cardiology workstation and the first complete cardiology PACS. Unlike other vendors, we're completely focused on healthcare imaging and have no competing agendas with other hospital IT solutions or modality sales.

At the heart of our cardiology solution suite is a true multi-modality solution for your cardiology department. With Merge, you can make your cardiologists and your department more efficient by consolidating your different silos of cardiology images and information into a centralized, Webbased system.

Merge provides your cardiologists with a single application, which gives them immediate, "anywhere access" to current and prior images across all cardiac imaging and can even include ECG waveforms and radiology images. Combine this with "anywhere reporting" and cardiologists can produce reports on any cardiac exam – even if they're at a

"Merge's cardiology solution has clearly exceeded our expectations. Despite the complexity of our echo network, we've had essentially no downtime and excellent system speed and performance. Our productivity has increased and there has been no decline in system performance, despite the addition of echo staff, echo machines, and workstations."

Craig E. Fleishman MD, FACC, FASE, director of non-invasive cardiac imaging, Arnold Palmer Medical Center, Miami Children's Hospital (Miami, FL)

remote office or at home. With Merge, you can provide your cardiologists with all of the exams and the patient's complete, consolidated cardiac file.

Merge also provides sophisticated automation solutions to further enhance efficiency and quality. For example, Merge

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is one of the only vendors that provides a state-of-the-art, fully integrated, hemodynamic workflow and data collection solution for your cath lab. This solution not only fully pre-populates data into the clinical report but also serves as your launch pad for ACC accreditation.

At the root of Merge's cardiology solution is a truly standards-based, vendor-neutral archive for your images and image-related

information. What that means for you is a long term investment in a standards-based system – instead of a proprietary solution that will inevitably be replaced in time.

How We Do It

We invest nearly \$16 million every year in research and development to ensure a robust pipeline of innovation. Our goal is to bring the depth of our experience to serve your hospital, practice, or IDN.

Merge doesn't design and implement solutions in a vacuum. Instead, we work with cardiologists and other healthcare professionals to assess their goals and objectives and then build our solutions with those goals and objectives in mind.

Other vendors supply software as a commodity. Merge prefers to partner with you to share in your vision and, ultimately, your success.

Merge's cardiology solutions are the product of more than 20 years of cardiology imaging and workflow experience.

Merge Cardio™ provides singlepoint access to your patients' digital integrated cardiovascular record. Web-based clinical reporting streamlines the report generation and distribution process.

Merge Hemo™ focuses on improving workflow, analysis, and quality throughout your cath lab. It also provides one of the most flexible user interfaces, which makes your cath lab's workflow more efficient.

Merge iConnect™ VNA provides a consolidated image management platform for all "ologies," departments, and locations. Address the imaging component of your EMR strategy with a standards-based, vendor-neutral archive.

Merge EchoIMS™, built to cater to the specific needs of pediatric echocardiography, features a specialized library of normative data, a robust diagnostic and reporting toolset, and tools for managing departmental workflow.

Merge ACC-NCDR CathPCI Registry Reporting simplifies your cath lab's participation in the ACCNCDR quality measurement program.

About Merge Healthcare

Merge Healthcare is the leading provider of enterprise imaging and interoperability solutions. Merge solutions facilitate the sharing of images to create a more effective and efficient electronic healthcare experience for patients and physicians. Merge provides enterprise imaging solutions for radiology, cardiology and orthopaedics; a suite of products for clinical trials; software for financial and pre-surgical management, and applications that fuel the largest modality vendors in the world. Merge's products have been used by healthcare providers, vendors and researchers worldwide to improve patient care for more than 20 years. Additional information can be found at www.merge.com.

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