



Case Study: Healthcare



Iowa Health System

Iowa Hospital System (IHS) is Iowa's first and largest integrated healthcare system with 11 hospitals and 128 clinics in 63 communities in Iowa, western Nebraska, and eastern Illinois. IHS chose Fiberutilities Group to manage all aspects of the design, engineering, creation, as well as the migration to, and ongoing management of, a privately owned optical network.

Utilizing proprietary and detailed economic and technology feasibility models, Fiberutilities Group developed a comprehensive private network strategy tailored specifically to the needs of IHS. This strategy included the successful negotiation and acquisition of 2,100 route miles of fiber forming the backbone of a new IHS enterprise optical network. This fiber connects key IHS facilities for the purpose of establishing light speed transport of medical information, patient records and advanced tele-health applications.

Specifically, IHS required a Gigabit Ethernet network capable of supporting and delivering:

Standardized Electronic Health Records – With the increased bandwidth enabled multi-Gig Ethernet transport, IHS has created the foundation for the development of standardized patient Electronic Health Records – a priority identified by the federal government.

Increased Network Reliability – IHS implemented a redundant ring solution (with diverse routing) capable of responding quickly and effectively to physical failures, ensuring the network maintains peak performance in the event of a natural disaster or an emergency situation and providing fast, reliable healthcare at all times.

Network Expansion – IHS needed solid connectivity infrastructure to serve as the foundation for growth and meeting the needs of new patients and facilities. Fiberutilities Group designed and implemented a network capable of logical, cost efficient growth and providing the necessary bandwidth needed to serve IHS and its future network and medical initiatives.



Ease of Management – Utilizing true industry standards-based Ethernet connectivity, Fiberutilities Group provides Layer 2 support without interference to Layer 3 (and above) operations. This ensures simple and cost effective connectivity and management while separating the IHS-managed Layer 3 (and above) activities and applications.

Fiberutilities Group provided a turn-key solution including network design, engineering, project management, installation and operation bringing the IHS vision to fruition. Fiberutilities Group also provides 24 x 365 Network operations and connectivity management services for the IHS network, one of the largest privately owned medical networks in the USA.

“IHS has hundreds of vendors, but Fiberutilities Group is truly our business partner. Projects have been on time, under budget and continue to exceed our expectations on quality and performance. Knowledge, experience, integrity and results – Fiberutilities Group provides the whole package.”

-- Jim Mormann, Chief Information Officer, IHS

“Fiberutilities Group clearly understood our organization’s strategic vision, and was integral in our ability to achieve that vision. They integrated extremely well with our team at both the staff and executive level.

-- Duncan Gallagher, Executive VP & Chief Operations Officer, IHS