

Pre-Employment Health Automation Project at AlRazi Health Center

The Pre-Employment checkup for expatriates working in Kingdom of Bahrain is performed upon their arrival to the Kingdom. The checkup aims to ensure medical fitness of expatriates to work in the country, and to detect infection diseases that may affect the community. The Pre-Employment tests are conducted according to the expatriate's nationality and occupation. Around 85% of the checkups are conducted at Al Razi Health Center and 15% at other health centers and private hospitals/clinics.

The Pre-Employment Health Check Automation Project (PREMPC) was initiated in June 2005. Two vendors were contracted to develop PREMPC application and all integrations to other applications and medical Equipments in order.

The project team members are:

1. Siddiqa AlQassab – Project Manager
2. Huda Olaiwi – Application Specialist
3. Ebrahim Adam – Network Specialist
4. Victor Del – Network Specialist
5. Nada Al-Ekri – Application Specialist
6. Hussain Al-Hadi – Integration Specialist
7. Mohammed AbdulElla – Integration Specialist

And sponsored by

1. Dr Ali Saleh – Medical Comissions
2. Dr Abdulla Mansoor – AlRazi Health Center Doctor in Charge

The implementation of the Pre-employment project was completed at AlRazi Health Centre in April 2007. Other health centers will be integrated to the system through the web. The private clinics will be able in future, to interface MOH web site and enter the results of checkups to be approved by MOH.



The objectives of the project were mainly to:

- Reduces the time of medical checkup process.
- Raises efficiency of clerical work in data management.
- Enables accelerating issuance of checkup results.
- Use of data at the time of consultation improves patient services.
- Enables management of the progress of medical check-ups.
- Reduces staff labor requirements. The time saved could be applied to improve the checkup area, assisting patients, etc., and thereby overall improvement of service.
- Provide information in case of claims for compensation for occupation- related diseases and use health checkups for health promotion.
- Increase efficiency of staff due to automation of tasks.
- Cost savings in the long run due to better control over revenue collection and automation.
- Improved image of the ministry in public view due to faster and more efficient processing.
- Avoidance of any possible claims or compensations due to missing or damaged documents.
- Less office space requirement for filing and storage.

One of the recent completed projects in the Administration Office in Health Information Directorate (HID) is the Document Management System. This project aimed to electronically archive the huge amount of paper documents in the office, which will result in reducing the number of physical documents storage and provide more security over them.

Document management gives users the tools to quickly and efficiently store, organize and retrieve document from a pool of documents.

By applying this project, we are providing the users with the following benefits:

- Importing, scanning, adding a notation, and exporting Documents.
- Provide storing documents using indexes and easy retrieve them.
- Centralized management for authentication, authorization and searching.
- The ability to support huge pools of data.
- Contains the OCR facility and the ability to index using it.
- Security over the package controlled by User ID and Password
- Security over the file cabinets and even the fields.

This all will results in more easy, efficient, reliable and secure management office. In addition, it will give more control to users over their documents and their business workflow.

Mona: Computer System Analyst

HID INFOline Towards Improvements...

By: Elham Al-Baharna

Questionnaires were sent out through the intranet to all MOH staff to fill in. The main purpose of the questionnaire is to improve the HID Info Line Newsletter. Only 30 replies were received, 27% from HID staff and 73% from other MOH dept. The main results shows that 100% of the users are satisfied with the newsletter and they think that only minor improvements are required. Over 90% of the users are happy with the layout of the newsletter colors, design, size...etc, around 45% of the users read the short articles or headers only. There is a big desire from most users 86% to publish the newsletter in both languages English and Arabic rather than English only, this need to be considered soon in the coming editions. Around 62% of the users preferred the electronic issue, the hardcopy issue scored 31% and only 7% preferred to publish both electronic and hardcopy. The high percentage towards the electronic perhaps due to that the questionnaire were sent only electronically and therefore it targeted the users whom using computers as part of their job or they are regular computer users so their electronic access is very easy. In fact, there was a chance to have different percentage distribution between the 3 choices if the non computer users were approached as well.

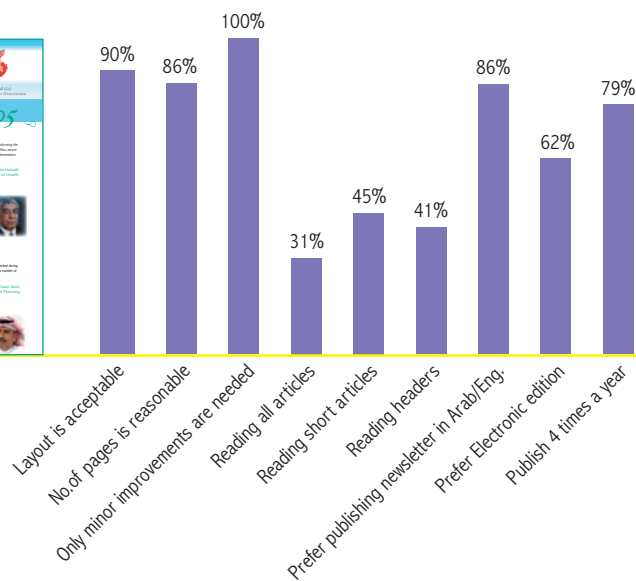
Most of the users 79% thought that the newsletter should be published 4 times a year.

Also many comments/suggestions were addressed by the users such as introducing articles about other MOH Dept. services, making interviews with staff about their working areas also to have mixture of subjects, technical (IT) and non technical articles...etc.

Finally, although we had a very few number of replies compared to the huge number of MOH staff, but really those few replies were very helpful and we appreciate the time spent by the users to fill in the questionnaire beside having their valuable comments, which we promise to consider in the next coming editions.

The following graph illustrates the main results

Elham: Data Quality Analyst



Ministry of Health Website

www.moh.gov.bh

By: Maban Mansoori

The Ministry of Health has launched its website with new design and layout. The new MOH website provides many electronic services to the public besides the publishing of MoH services, procedures and helpful health information.

The MOH website will be a corner stone in the ministry efforts for entering the Bahrain eGovernment Strategy.

The MoH website is bilingual, rich with content, it serves diverse audiences like patients, Bahrain citizens and residents, Health Professionals, Nurses, Allied Health workers, pharmacists and Health Institutions.

It has some electronic Services that are very useful like checking appointments at Salmaniya Medical Complex Outpatient Clinics, Drugs Price List, Registration in the Doctors and Dentists Directory, applying for jobs and booking appointments in the MoH private clinics.

It has updated content through the news, workshops and conferences, Statistics, searching for any doctor in Bahrain and other informative content. The website has comprehensive content through its sub sites such as Health Education, Avian Flu, Haj Medical Committee websites and Licensure and Registration Office. Moreover, the website provides many services to its visitors like calculation of Body Mass Index and Delivery Date. In fact, the new website has a very attractive design with very easy navigation and browsing layout.



Maban: Senior Computer Systems Analyst

Business Continuity

By: Ebrahim Adam

The idea of the Business Continuity Project came into existence in early 2004 when a problem hit the Central Health Information System and left it unavailable from the users for more than 24 hours. The system is used across the Ministry of Health by a very large number of users in many different business areas. Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC) wards, Outpatient departments, Pathology, Radiology and health centers are among the most affected business areas by any shutdown or unavailability of the system. Health Information Directorate (HID) has approached Ministry of Finance to approve the fund to start the project.

The old hardware that hosts the system was installed since June 1996 and the manufacturer which is Sun Microsystems has stopped supporting the hardware. This put the business of users mentioned above into risk and maintenance was difficult sustain.

The main objectives of the project were to replace the existing hardware and provide a continuous availability of the Health Central Information System by introducing a redundant solution. To achieve these objectives, Health Information Directorate has approached this project in two streams. The hardware stream was an open tender to lease the hardware and was floated in November 2005. The other stream was the software and consultancy in which HID has approached iSoft plc (a UK based company and the supplier of the current software) to provide the required software licenses and consultancy as the software is proprietary and owned by iSoft. The Consultant was approached to recommend the best hardware and configurations that will provide the best performance which is required by the end users of this system.

A hardware provider was selected based on the cost offered and ability to provide the best hardware required within the required time frame to execute the project. The hardware was installed in early October 2006. Once the hardware was installed and tested, a preparation exercise took place to make sure that all technical issues and problems are solved prior to the visit of iSoft consultants. A

team of six members including the project manager was formulated to look into technical and application related issues. The project team members were:

1. Ebrahim Adam (project manager)
2. Redha Jahrami
3. Shiva Shankar
4. Hussain Al-Hadi
5. Arif Al-Mukhtar
6. Nada Al-Ekri

The project was completed successfully in January 2007 where two consultants from iSoft plc have visited HID to install the necessary software and licenses.

A survey was conducted to find out the impact of the new system. As expected all users in all business areas were very satisfied with the system, and they felt the improved performance. For example now at SMC appointment desk, it takes the clerk only a minute to issue an appointment compared to 3 minutes using the old system. The laboratory users were happy to receive the results from the analyzers in less than a 5 minutes and could verify them and present them to the required medical staff. The latter process usually takes more than 15 minutes using the old hardware. Another improvement is clearly noticed during the period of entering Time Attendance data which usually done in the first week of each month. Also, more licenses were introduced to allow users to connect to the system, every user around the ministry was able to connect to perform his work. At Radiology Reporting Section, the users were allowed to enter and verify the reports much faster.

The major improvement was reducing the downtime which was one of the main objectives of the project.

Ebrahim: Computer Software Specialist

Congratulations to Ministry of Health "e-Content Award"



"Ministry of Health Internet Website" (www.moh.gov.bh) was selected as one of the Bahrain e-Content Award 2007 winners in eHealth Category. The Jury of experts from Bahrain met in April 2007 to evaluate 400 products from 8 different categories. During the evaluation, Ministry of Health website was selected to be one of the winners in eHealth Category. The selection and evaluation was based on the World Summit Award (WSA) rules and procedures. The website was outstanding in the following 5 Evaluation Criteria:

1. Quality and comprehensiveness of content
2. Ease of use: functionality, navigation and orientation
3. Value added through interactivity and multimedia
4. Quality of design (aesthetic value of graphics / music or sounds)
5. Quality of craftsmanship (technical realization)

Therefore, Ministry of Health Website (www.moh.gov.bh) is automatically become the nominees of the World Summit Award (WSA) 2007 Global Contest which will be held in Croatia in September 2007.

Note: The World Summit Award (WSA) is a global initiative to select and promote the world's best e-Content, started in 2003 in the framework of the United Nations' World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). This is done through national contests, a global contest, held every 2 years, and numerous content-focused national and international conferences and workshops – the WSA Road Show.



HID social activities



Family Day



2006 Social Committee Award



Staff Medical Checkup



Nutrition Lecture

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