

ONRAD, based in Riverside, CA., has experienced record volumes each month for the past few years and grew 30 percent in 2009. They have been a TeleRIS™ customer since 1998. The practice provides service to customers across the country at more than 100 facilities, and for several hundred modalities and PACS solutions. If mobile units are counted, the total number of ‘facilities’ is over 1,000.

In addition to their own cases, ONRAD shared their system with another company for a number of years, adding over a thousand orders per day to their regular caseload. The result? Thousands of regular and emergency cases come in every day, requiring immediate, appropriate prioritization.

Recently, ONRAD completed the acquisition and integration of Meridian Regional Imaging in Vernon Hills, IL, and successfully added 75,000 more annual studies to its daytime workflow. The workflow required for many of these daytime clients involves routing studies to subspecialty trained radiologists based on specific, customized criteria, and again, ThinAir’s TeleRIS solution helped incorporate this new workflow side by side with the current one. The right study has to be matched to the right radiologist—someone credentialed in the originating state as well as that specialty and modality—and then redistributed to the facilities efficiently and accurately – multiple tasks that TeleRIS is well-suited for.

#### A Proven Track Record

To manage the operation as well as the rapid growth, ONRAD implemented a new PACS to be integrated with their current RIS. “We’ve been a long-time user of TeleRIS from ThinAir Data Corp., and this was the third different PACS used by ONRAD over the past few years”, says Jesse Salen, Vice President of Technology, “so we knew there was already a proven track record with TeleRIS.”

TeleRIS lets ONRAD perform all the study prioritization and distribution automatically. The integration with PACS allows radiologists to provide preliminary and final reads over the Web for their many customers, wherever they are, all using the same PACS graphical user interface for all of the accounts, on a single centralized worklist, regardless of the HIS/RIS/PACS used at the client facilities.

#### Efficient Workflow Through Technology

As customers send images securely over a VPN to ONRAD’s central PACS, TeleRIS monitors the receiving of studies. Customers have access to ThinAir’s TeleRIS and their own account via the built-in Web Portal, where they can view workflow, status of cases and more. The system shows when an ONRAD radiologist is interpreting a case and lets users view reports as they are created.

Aside from the double-digit growth in volume that ONRAD has already experienced, the practice is now reading studies that contain more images than ever before. “As far as actual images processed is concerned, we’re probably experiencing about 60 percent growth,” Salen says.

The ThinAir configuration is scalable with ONRAD’s growth, an important consideration. The investment was well worth it, Salen says, “We’d be unable to grow our business without TeleRIS. Additionally, we wouldn’t be able to provide the quality our customers demand at the level of efficiency we need to remain profitable.”