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THE DIGITAL AGE

CHARTACLOUD BRINGS HIGH-TECH TO ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS

ChartaCloud bridges paper and paperless worlds

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PORTSMOUTH – ChartaCloud Technologies bridges the paper and paperless worlds with a product that, in Mike Radice's view, is the best of both worlds.

The product is SmartpaperForms. Radice is chairman of the technology advisory board for ChartaCloud, a Portsmouth-based company that "brings the best of paper to the digital age." SmartpaperForms is one of several products from the company. They range from the smart paper and digital pens, to tablet and mobile forms, data extraction and integration, and workflow and task management. Many of the products are geared toward health care, particularly home health care, putting ChartaCloud, in Radice's estimation, at the "overlap of technology and health care."

ChartaCloud last month held a symposium for about 35 people in Portsmouth on topics related to home health care and how technology can improve patient care, business operations and compliance to patient privacy rules spelled out in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. "Home health care is under a lot of pressure to perform better," Radice said.

The symposium, said Radice, gave the 12 largest home health care providers in the state a chance to learn from experts on how technology can help them with their care and compliance. And it gave ChartaCloud the opportunity to showcase some of its technologies that reside, as the name implies, "in the Cloud," a term that applies to the growing use of offsite servers and software to carry out electronic functions on computer devices.

"At the end of the day, we hope to be a partner in their technology choices," said Radice.

Radice has a 45-year history as an investor and mentor in emerging technology companies. He said in 1985 he was part of the venture by Computer Language Research Inc. to get the Internal Revenue Service to implement online tax filing, a process that started in 1986. He has a particular interest in ChartaCloud because its managing director is Lauryn Schimmel, his daughter. Her husband, Rob Schimmel, is chief operating officer.

ChartaCloud was founded in June 2014 and recently relocated to 155 Fleet St. in Portsmouth from its origins in Austin, Texas. Part of the reason for coming to Portsmouth was to be closer to its technology partners, such as Treeno Software on Islington Street, which creates document management solutions.

ChartaCloud relies on its eight partners and their staffs for the products it then creates, such as SmartpaperForms.

With SmartpaperForms, someone in the field, say a medical professional making a home visit to a client, can use specially prepared paper and pen to fill out a form. The paper has an embedded grid. The form on the paper looks like any form someone might have to fill out for a particular need. The pen has ink but also has an infrared camera that records each pen stroke on the X and Y axis of the gridded paper. The data is stored in the pen and can be downloaded using a docking station or Bluetooth connection to a computer or smartphone.

The SmartpaperForms is applicable in any environment, according to Radice, where someone might attach a form to a clipboard and start filling it in with a pen.

"It can be used in environments where a laptop or tablet isn't conducive," said Radice. Since paper forms are commonly used, there isn't a lot of training involved, according to Radice. In addition, he said that with a paper form there isn't the added distractions of music or videos or whatever someone might have on a laptop or tablet.

ChartaCloud also has a suite of technologies in its ForMedical service, which addresses privacy and security concerns related to electronically kept health records and communications as required by HIPAA. There are 20 applications, according to Radice, that address secure texting and email, electronic forms and data backup to name a few.

"The ForMedical cloud is a major focus," Radice said, who added the need for home health care technologies will continue to rise as baby boomers age, many with the hope of aging in place in their home.

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