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Lexmark Acquires Claron Technology for $37m

Lexmark International, Inc. has announced its acquisition of Toronto-based medical imaging company Claron Technology, Inc. for about $37 million in cash. Claron is a leading provider of medical image viewing, distribution, sharing and collaboration software technology.

Claron's medical image viewing platform offers web-based access to patient imaging studies from PACS (picture archiving and communication systems) or VNAs (vendor-neutral archives). This means that referring physicians, clinicians and specialists can be given easy access to patient imaging studies regardless of location, allowing collaboration in real time to improve patient care.

Lexmark is most interested in Claron's universal web-based, zero-footprint viewer, which enables diagnostic interpretation of medical images and related digital information on a variety of devices. The system, which supports both 2D and 3D viewing, requires no software downloads and delivers a medical view comparable to other PACS solutions, Lexmark said.

"Digital content in all forms continues to exponentially grow, particularly in healthcare. Physicians, other providers and the health information exchanges must be equipped to utilise this content more quickly and collaborate more efficiently to better serve patients," said Paul Rooke, Lexmark's chairman and CEO.

The acquisition of Claron "further differentiates Lexmark by providing solutions to help physicians and providers view images across devices and the enterprise, enabling better collaboration and patient care," he added.

Claron will report into Lexmark's Perceptive Software, which with this acquisition, will be able to expand its offering to healthcare providers. Lexmark said that the combination of Perceptive Software's content and process management platform and the universal viewer will enable it to offer solutions with vendor neutrality that help eliminate silos. The vendor hopes that the result will be improved access to content and better patient care.

“Claron is pleased to join Lexmark’s Perceptive Software and to bring our combined offering to the healthcare industry,” said Claudio Gatti, Claron’s co-founder and co-CEO. “By incorporating Claron technology into Perceptive Software’s medical content management solutions, we will further enable healthcare delivery organisations to share the information needed to make better care decisions. The broad combined product offering and the increased capacities of Claron will also greatly benefit our growing network of global OEM partners."

The acquisition of Claron is part of Lexmark's capital allocation framework, an acquisition strategy designed to

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provide the vendor with greater software chops. In addition, this strategy aims to provide 50 percent of free cash flow to shareholders, on average, through quarterly dividends and share repurchases.

Source: Claron Technology Inc./ITP.net
Image Credit: Claron/Lexmark International Inc.

Published on : Sat, 17 Jan 2015

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