Portfolio of healthcare apps moves to cloud

Hospitals and other healthcare facilities with tight IT budgets can turn to Mercy Technology Services for help with their cloud computing needs. The company has launched a new healthcare cloud service for hosting mission-critical apps like the EHR and imaging, as well as business-essential systems like email, file shares or any other healthcare workload. Mercy's new cloud hosting service will be available beginning late spring 2018.

Cloud hosting offers efficiency, flexibility and cost-effectiveness that make it preferable to infrastructure-heavy enterprise data centres, according to IT execs at the St. Louis-based Mercy, the IT arm of one of the largest Catholic health systems in the United States.

"Healthcare's tech leaders want to migrate to get the cloud's benefits without the cloud's risks, but a good solution has been hard to find," said Scott Richert, Mercy's vice president of enterprise infrastructure. "This is the same equipment I'd buy for my enterprise data centres, with the same high service standard we hold for ourselves. Now there's a way to share enterprise-class cloud hosting with our healthcare community."

By leveraging a common cloud infrastructure hospitals and other customers can move workloads between their private data centres and Mercy Technology Services' cloud, and leverage the Mercy Technology Services cloud service for increased flexibility, security and IT agility, explained officials from Mercy, which is one of Healthcare IT News' Best Hospital IT Departments.

Mercy's healthcare cloud is supported by Mercy Technology Services' HIPAA-compliant, SSAE 16-compliant and SOC2-compliant data centres, where it hosts Mercy's roughly 1,200 healthcare applications, including the Epic EHR for Mercy and commercial customers.

Mercy is part of the VMware Cloud Provider Program, and Mercy Technology Services' cloud service runs on VMware vSphere, a virtualisation platform for building cloud infrastructures.

Mercy's new healthcare cloud and managed services will supplement the company's portfolio of IT systems, which includes Epic as a service, backup and recovery as a service, imaging as a service, healthcare analytics and more.

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Image Credit: Mercy Hospital

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