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Healthcare Overview

If we experience an Internet outage, it essentially puts us out of business in providing care. This can be life-threatening when dealing with the often-serious medical issues of the population we serve. Ecessa's PowerLink™ is especially helpful for us, as we need the flexibility to provide healthcare any place, any time.

Lee Cowgill

Network Administrator at Boston Healthcare for the Homeless Program

Doctors, nurses and other practitioners are increasingly turning to mobile devices and big data to improve patient care. Wearable and connected devices are making their way into regular practices, creating incredible efficiency, helping to scale services and improving patient care and outcomes. Along with all of the positive implications, institutions have a need for more network bandwidth more than ever.

Due to the rising collection and use of data in the healthcare industry and the adoption of electronic data records and electronic health records, half of Ponemon Institute survey respondents said they were looking to expand their storage systems by one terabyte or more within the year.

As big data, mobile devices and remote apps continue to permeate the healthcare industry, one thing becomes abundantly clear: institutions are utilizing more network resources than ever. If available bandwidth can't meet the demand, application performance of suffers.

Decision-makers in the healthcare industry should take an in-depth look at their network and not only work to increase bandwidth where necessary, but leverage several diverse communication links to ensure the best performing — *always performing* — network. Institution leaders also need to be prepared for the worst. A Software-Defined Wide Area Network (SD-WAN) can provide critical connectivity backup, ensuring that if one connection goes down, there is another ready and waiting to handle user traffic. It's not just about having a standby backup link, it's hard working links, each sharing the traffic load. In case of disastrous events, like a backhoe cutting a line or a provider technical failure, priority traffic isn't impacted. It keeps on flowing through the good links.

The bottom line? In today's world, it's not good enough to just have abundant bandwidth and multiple links, health care organizations need those resources optimized for Never Down™ performance.