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# Press Release

## **Awarepoint Deploys Largest Real-time Location Solution (RTLS) in Healthcare**

*Jackson Health System Covers Nearly 4 Million Square Feet and Includes 12,000 RTLS Equipment Asset and Temperature Monitoring Tags*

SAN DIEGO (February 19, 2008) – [Awarepoint](#) Corporation today announced an enterprise-wide installation of its Real-time Awareness Solution (RTAS) at Jackson Health System, an integrated healthcare delivery system in Miami, Florida. Awarepoint is actively tracking 12,000 medical equipment assets throughout the hospital's nearly 4 million square foot, multi-building campus. With Jackson Health System's large network coverage requirement, fast and minimally invasive installation was imperative to success. Requiring no hard wiring, Awarepoint's "plug and track" network is a fully managed service, including hardware, software, remote monitoring and maintenance. With its patented wireless sensor network (WSN) architecture, Awarepoint completed the entire 3.8 million square foot campus installation in less than 6 weeks.

The Jackson Health System contract initially specifies 11,750 RTLS asset tracking tags plus 250 temperature monitoring tags and provides expansion for an additional 8,000 asset tags, bringing the total to 20,000. Awarepoint coverage encompasses a remarkable 91 floors and 17 buildings and extends from Jackson Memorial Hospital's South Wing, North Wing, West Wing and East Tower throughout the campus to include Holtz Children's Hospital, the Ryder Trauma Center, the Mental Health Hospital, the Highland Professional Building, plus parking pavilions and other annex buildings. Phase 2 of installation is planned to include Jackson South Community Hospital, a 199 bed acute-care hospital located in south Miami-Dade County, and Jackson North Medical Center, a 382 bed acute-care center located in North Miami Beach.

With the Awarepoint RTAS, Jackson Health System staff now have immediate insight into the location, status and movement of mobile equipment assets, creating a more efficient environment for staff; reducing lost, stolen or misplaced medical equipment; and increasing equipment utilization so that future purchases and rentals are greatly decreased. With the sheer vastness of the campus, enterprise resource visibility is a must to ensure quality of care and maximize staff productivity. The Jackson Health System's deployment provides location accuracy of an average 1.5 meters or better throughout the entire enterprise. This includes in-room accuracy as well as defined area accuracy (in hallways, open areas, closed carts, etc.).

### **Tracking High Value Medical Equipment**

Jackson Health System is wirelessly tracking and monitoring a variety of high value medical equipment throughout its enterprise, as well as using the Awarepoint Real-time Awareness Solution to improve workflows and efficiency.

Primary asset categories covered include:

- Infusion, Pain and Fluid Pumps
- Life-critical Respiratory Equipment
- Surgical Generator Carts
- Surgical Light Sources
- Portable Ultrasound Machines

In addition, thousands of specialty and one-of-kind items are monitored, including items required for specific surgeons or procedures, and even mail carts, where workflow efficiency can be a particular challenge due to the massive campus footprint. Further, patient escort services are monitoring the location of wheelchairs and stretchers, the availability of which impact patient wait times and throughput, both customary impediments to satisfaction and the bottom line.

### **Saving Money and Time**

Jackson Health System is governed by the Public Health Trust, a dedicated team of citizen volunteers acting on behalf of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners to ensure that all residents of Miami-Dade County receive a single high standard of care regardless of their ability to pay. In today's economic crisis, the Public Health Trust took a close look at operations and determined enterprise-wide visibility of crucial resources was essential. Especially in this recession, Jackson Health System focused on solutions that offer high and rapid return on investment, while improving quality of care and patient safety. Lost, stolen and misplaced equipment was a key driver of the Awarepoint solution, with specific focus placed on:

- Improving staff work environment (freeing up employees from time-consuming equipment search tasks)
- Materials management efficiency (fewer rentals, maximizing utilization of equipment they own, managing preventive maintenance cycles, reducing equipment shrinkage)
- Process improvement and business intelligence solutions to save both money and time

### **Beyond Asset Tracking**

In addition to locating and monitoring mobile assets, Jackson Health System has installed 250 Awarepoint T2T temperature monitoring tags. These tags wirelessly monitor and maintain logs on temperature-sensitive assets such as refrigerators, freezers and warmers. The Awarepoint solution sends real-time alerts for out-of-compliance situations to protect critical temperatures and allow maximum staff response time and accountability. Jackson Health System is using these same T2T temperature tags to monitor PACS Radiology data centers. Temperature tags are placed in front of server panels to monitor the ambient temperature and allow staff to utilize external A/C units, when required. As a next step, Awarepoint and Jackson Health System will be reviewing patient flow integration into workflow automation solutions to meet departmental throughput needs in areas such as Perioperative services, the emergency department and outpatient services.

### **How it Works**

"Through the Public Health Trust, Jackson Health System was tasked with taking proper steps to assure equipment loss was at a minimum, while utilization of equipment they own was maximized. That is precisely the right start of the RTLS value curve Awarepoint promotes," said Jason Howe, Awarepoint's Chief Executive Officer. "And, because they required vast network coverage of nearly 4 million square feet, a large amount of current and future asset tags, and need to view assets across all 17 buildings, Awarepoint offered the only truly practical enterprise-wide solution."

Jackson Health System is the largest single system RTLS deployment in healthcare, and Awarepoint is dedicated to its current and ongoing success. Howe added, "In addition to our technological advantages, Awarepoint provides Jackson Health System a dedicated Customer Service Team to support successful integrations, conduct training and awareness in-services; drive meaningful application usage and measure outcomes. Awarepoint technologies and service model are "game changing" in the industry – I don't believe any competing solutions could easily support the sheer network size and tag volume we're talking about here. That's the brilliance of our highly scalable, minimally invasive infrastructure and fully managed service model. We look forward to more and more IDN opportunities in healthcare, where we're confident Awarepoint can have the biggest impact."

### About Jackson Health System

Opened in 1918, Jackson Memorial Hospital is an accredited, tax-assisted, tertiary teaching hospital with more than 1,500 licensed beds. In conjunction with the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine faculty, Jackson Memorial provides a wide range of patient services, educational programs, a clinical setting for research activities and a number of health-related community services. For more than 90 years, the Jackson Health System has been a cornerstone of the South Florida community, providing comprehensive medical care to all who need it. The University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center has more specialties ranked among the best in America by *U.S. News & World Report* than any other hospital in South Florida.

### About Awarepoint

Awarepoint's Real-time Awareness Solutions (RTAS) include its real time awareness platform, firmware, RFID tags, sensors, and bridges. Awarepoint's technologies collect raw sensor data and transform that data into high-value positioning information that can be used to add location awareness to a variety of healthcare applications. Requiring no hard wiring, Awarepoint's "plug and track" network is a fully managed service, including hardware, software, remote monitoring and maintenance. The company is headquartered in San Diego, California and serves hospitals across the United States through an exclusive relationship with Skytron, an internationally known medical equipment supplier. Track us down at [www.awarepoint.com](http://www.awarepoint.com) or visit [www.skytron.us](http://www.skytron.us).

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