> There’s a fundamental change in thinking among ophthalmologists, a desire to access all of the various data in one place. «

Dr. med. Wolfgang J. Mayer
Best practice data management

Improving the data and workflow processes of a large eye care operation poses special challenges. In 2012, the University Eye Hospital of the Ludwig Maximilians University (LMU) in Munich, Germany installed a FORUM® data management system from ZEISS. It also commissioned the ZEISS Professional IT Services support team to handle the project management and system integration. Two of the hospital’s specialists, Dr. med. Wolfgang J. Mayer and Dr. med. Karsten Kortüm, commented on the requirements, deliverables and positive results of the project in an interview. The key points are summarized below.

One of the key objectives was to connect all our various imaging systems and to centrally store the large volumes of information for everyone to access.

Defining the needs

Managing the rapidly growing volumes of imaging data of diagnostic systems such as OCTs and fundus cameras with paper printouts was cumbersome, costly, time- and space-consuming. The LMU hospital needed a data management solution that could:

- Seamlessly communicate with its Hospital Information System (HIS) and EMR system
- Connect all of its diagnostic systems via DICOM
- Offer central storage and easy access to all diagnostic data
- Support a completely digital workflow

For the complete interview with Dr. Mayer and Dr. Kortüm, visit www.meditec.zeiss.com/forumreferences
Dr. med. Karsten Kortüm  
Eye Care Specialist,  
LMU University Eye Hospital

Connecting all of the systems using DICOM worked out very well, but also ZEISS’ support in integrating our non-DICOM systems.

Implementing the plan

Given the size of its operation and complexity of its IT environment, the hospital called on the support of the ZEISS Professional IT Services staff to install its new ZEISS FORUM system. Working closely with the in-house IT provider, the ZEISS team:

- Developed a special interface to integrate ZEISS FORUM with the existing IT landscape
- Linked all diagnostic modalities, including third-party and non-DICOM systems
- Continues to provide ongoing IT advice and assistance

Improving the outcomes

Compared to the previous paper-based examination routine, the hospital has seen a tremendous workflow improvement and has also greatly reduced the risk of losing important diagnostic data. The results?

- Higher diagnostic quality through raw data availability
- Fully digital data management workflow
- Up-to-date data at every workstation
- Higher patient throughput
- Annual time savings of approximately 5 weeks based on 30 patients a day
- Cost savings of 10,000 Euros a year for paper printouts

ZEISS Professional IT Services improve data and workflow processes from reception throughout the clinic at the LMU University Eye Hospital in Munich
ZEISS Professional IT Services

Whatever the size of the eye care operation, whatever the diagnostic components used, ZEISS Professional IT Services can help optimize overall clinical data management. Support measures include:

- **System integration** – ZEISS FORUM integration with existing IT infrastructures and diagnostic systems (e.g. HL7, DICOM)
- **Data migration** – data transfer from legacy systems (ZEISS or other) to ZEISS FORUM
- **Consulting** – expert advice on maximizing IT landscapes and clinical workflows
- **Project management** – end-to-end system integration support

Typical diagnostic workflow with ZEISS FORUM

![Diagram of diagnostic workflow]

Scan the QR code with your smartphone to learn more.
For more information, visit: [www.meditec.zeiss.com/forumreferences](http://www.meditec.zeiss.com/forumreferences)