

Overview

Ebola Hospital Ward
New York, New York

Solution components

APR-1, TLM-W, AP-1TB

Integrator

Suffolk Lock & Security
Professionals

"In this situation, it's imperative to have audio for the nurses to be able to speak to the patients while safely keeping them contained in their designated unit."

*Carl Schroeder,
Director of Electronics at
Suffolk Lock & Security
Professionals in Lindenhurst, NY*



**LOUROE
ELECTRONICS®**

World Leader in Audio Monitoring Technology Since 1979

Ebola Hospital Ward

Audio Enhances Safety and Nurse-Patient Communication

NEED

In the midst of the largest Ebola outbreak to date, a hospital in New York was fast-tracked to set up an Ebola ward to prepare for possible Ebola patients that could arrive at JFK Airport. The medical center needed to quickly set up a system that would ensure safe and secure communication among nurses, Ebola patients and any other personnel prepping to go into an Ebola patient's room.

SOLUTION

The hospital worked with Suffolk Lock & Security Professionals, based in New York, to meet the challenge. Since communication would be such an integral part of the system, the audio component of solution needed to be of the highest quality. Aware that Louroe Electronics was the go-to audio monitoring technologies manufacturer and having a recommendation from TRI-ED, the integrator selected Louroe's ASK-4® #501 Kit and APR-1 base station. The kit comes with a two-way speaker/microphone, which was mounted inside the patient's room, and a base station with listen and talkback capability, which was placed at the nurses' station. The system allows nurses to listen and speak to patients at any time.

RESULTS

The hospital is now ready to treat Ebola patients and accommodate all the needs and precautions that come with it. With the two-way audio system in place, the facility is able to provide the highest medical care without compromising security and safety.

2014 marked the year of the largest outbreak of Ebola— one of the deadliest diseases mankind has faced. When the World Health Organization categorized the epidemic as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern in August 2014, hospitals across the United States acted quickly to increase safety measures. One hospital in New York was fast-tracked to set up a temporary Ebola ward, in case an Ebola patient who arrived at JFK Airport needed to be rushed over to their center. They needed to set up a system that would enable nurses to safely communicate with such a patient, as well as with anyone getting prepped to go into the patient’s room.

To meet this challenge, the hospital employed an advanced audio system from Louroe Electronics. The solution included three products: their APR-1, a single zone, audio monitoring base station with listen-only functionality; the TLM, a two-way speaker/microphone; and the AP-1TB, a single zone, audio monitoring base station with listen and talkback capability. The audio base station was installed at the nurses’ station, while speaker/microphone units were installed on two patient room ceilings.

The speaker/microphone units monitor audio 24/7 in the patient rooms; nurses can listen in at any time. If the nurses want to talk with a patient, they press the talkback button on their base station, and their words will be broadcast through the speakerphone in the patient’s room. It is primarily the nurses who use the system and have access to the audio equipment. In addition to audio, video surveillance was set up as well. A VMS, made by Exacq Technologies, was installed. One camera was placed in each patient room. While the cameras record video, the audio is only for live monitoring.

Carl Schroeder, director of electronics at Suffolk Lock & Security Professionals, played a key role in the hospital installation and recommending the Louroe solution. Schroeder feels strongly that audio should be part of the overall security solution in hospital settings.

“In this situation, it’s imperative to have audio for the nurses to be able to speak to the patients while safely keeping them contained in their designated unit,” he explained.

Thankfully, the hospital has not yet faced a situation in which they needed to treat a patient suffering from the Ebola virus. However, preparation is key in the domain of medical care, and in order for the hospital to properly prepare for such a scenario, it was imperative that they quickly set up a system to accommodate all the needs and precautions inherent in treating Ebola patients. According to Schroeder, “Louroe’s technology was part of the answer.”

AP-1TB



APR-1



TLM-W



About Louroe Electronics

Located in Van Nuys, California, Louroe Electronics® has been the world leader in audio monitoring technology since its inception in 1979. Recognized globally, Louroe Electronics’ products are used in 50 countries and are utilized by both the private sector and government. The company’s Verifact® line of microphones, complementing base stations, and communication accessories, provide line level output to interface with various digital electronics. For over three decades, Louroe Electronics has maintained rigorous standards to ensure their products provide reliability, durability, and excellent performance for their customers’ needs.

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