Project « DTC »
a threefold experimentation of RFID-based tracking for improving organizational health related processes in hospital

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A collaborative project focused on tracking medical devices and containers for better hospital processes

- A collaborative project:

  - 5 hospitals
  - 7 companies
  - 1 non-profit group of tracking experts
  - 3 scientific research institutions
  - Partly funded by French minister of economy, industry and employment

- Scope: tracking medical devices and containers

- A management goal : better processes

  - efficient allocation of resources for higher quality of medical care
  - risk management
  - compliance with regulations

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3 sub-projects

Tracking medical devices and containers		
Bottles of medical gas **(inventorying)**	**Surgical instruments** **(sterilization)**	**Ancillaries** **(information sharing)**
Pilot **2 hospitals** **All bottles tagged** **RFID vs barcode**	*Pilot* **1 hospital** **Cardiac surgery** **~ 7 000 instruments**	*Pilot* **3 hospitals** **Circulation of several ancillaries**

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Hospital expectations : an organizational perspective

- Taylor-made new processes

- Involvement of hospital staff:

  - Allows co-design
  - Should contribute to better adoption

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Industrial expectations: a durable growth perspective

- Open large and consistent markets

  – Cooperation with hospitals should facilitate later selling

  – Large scale experimentation should facilitate later selling

  – Market of IS for sterilization is larger than others in the healthcare sector

- Open markets protected from off-shore low-cost competition

  – Technological barrier

  – Constraints related to the necessary availability of surgical instruments

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Open questions about IT projects within hospitals

- Technology as an answer to organizational difficulties?

    – To obtain an organizational change

    – To overcome an organizational failure

- Innovation driven buy bottom-up experimentation rather than institutional legitimacy?

    – More reactivity for the project

    – More pressure on the involved staff

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So now what?

- The project is starting

- It will last for two years

- Creation of an association

  – Focusing on the application of IT for healthcare
  – From the point of view of healthcare practitioners
  – COMMHIT
  – www.commhit.org (coming soon)

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