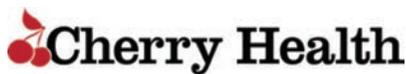


# Tegile Intelligent Flash Arrays Picked By Michigan's Largest Federally Qualified Health Center



Solution's ability to speed medical record access, ensure regulatory compliance of electronic information helps health services organization improve patient care



## Challenges

- Medical laws, regulations and commissions putting new pressures on IT
- Massive data sprawl challenges
- Old processes slowing down patient care

## Solutions

- Tegile IntelliFlash Hybrid Arrays

## Results

- Data sprawl under control
- Regulatory pressures addressed with state of the art EMR systems
- 62,000 more patient visits per year by accelerating IT with flash storage

Cherry Health is an independent, non-profit Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) with a primary focus on providing high-quality health services to those who have little or no access to healthcare, regardless of income or insurance status. Established in 1988, Cherry Health operates 27 sites in the counties of Barry, Kent, Montcalm and Wayne in Michigan and currently has a network of 260 physician and mid-level providers specializing in primary care/family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, optometry and psychiatry.

With a focus on making patients its No. 1 priority, Cherry Health reports several quality measures and maintains national accreditations based on its quality standards, which must be renewed on a regular basis. Among the medical laws, regulations and commissions that Cherry Health must comply with are the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), and, because it is an FQHC, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG).

### **The Challenge: Balance provider needs of fast access to patient records while managing massive database growth in order to satisfy compliance regulations pertaining to those records**

Five years ago, Cherry Health moved from a primarily paper-based record system to maintaining electronic versions for both better access for providers to serve their patients, as well as for controlling access to medical information within the organization. Cherry Health operates completely in a thin client environment to ensure the security of patient information. It runs Citrix Xen applications with records accessible via thin mobile devices. That way, if a mobile device is lost or stolen, there is no data stored locally on the device itself, ensuring there is no breach of information or data loss.

"Data has grown tremendously since we've started electronic medical records – we've quadrupled in our data storage of what we had 6 years ago," said Ken Brower, CIO of Cherry Health. "Before, when we were in a paper world, we had a paper chart. Now that data is done electronically, we not only need our production data, we need development databases, we need reporting databases, we need training databases and we need test lab databases. So really all of that storage, in a lot of cases, we're repeating five times just for what we would have had in a normal production environment."

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With the need for its providers to access patient information quickly and regulatory pressure driving a lot of database growth, Cherry Health looked for a storage system where it could put all of its Tier 1 applications that needed to stay up and running.

## **The Solution: Tegile Intelligent Storage Arrays accelerate Cherry Health's patient record access by dramatically reducing database response time while protecting critical information**

When it comes to storing, protecting and accessing business-critical information, Tegile flash arrays deliver sustained performance, resiliency and economics that enable organizations like Cherry Health to accelerate their operations while lowering storage infrastructure costs.

Tegile's portfolio of Intelligent Flash Array solutions help reduce database transaction wait times to sub-milliseconds and increase throughput by 10x by accelerating redo log writes; scale databases by virtualizing and consolidating more servers while overcoming challenges of I/O blending in a virtual environment; and help alleviate end-user challenges during peak usage times with massive bandwidth allocation and IOPS availability.

Databases often contain business-critical data that have to be protected and available 24 x 7. When deployed with Tegile Intelligent Flash Arrays, databases benefit from the resilience, end-to-end data integrity, and high availability features inherent in the company's arrays. Additionally, with flash-optimized RAID protection, zero-copy clones, Tegile arrays provide the perfect platform to store and manage mission-critical information.

Tegile arrays are fully redundant with no single point of failure. The bundled features includes VM-consistent, space-efficient snapshots, and bandwidth-efficient remote replication. With Tegile, organizations have comprehensive data protection and high availability, ensuring 24 X 7 desktop and data availability for end-users.

## **The Result: Tegile performs 'extremely well' in rigorous testing before helping Cherry Health providers have fast, quick access to enable good patient care**

As with any of the systems Cherry Health evaluates, Tegile was looked at for its fault tolerances and redundancy. Before putting it into live production, Brower's team used Tegile's flash-driven storage arrays with its production software and physically ripped out controllers, pulled disks and cables and did "just about everything" to see if they would fail in the organization's virtualized server environment.

After a successful 5-month proof of concept and testing to ensure that it would stand up to the rigors of day-to-day operations, Cherry Health began utilizing the speed and performance of Tegile's arrays for use with its Tier 1 applications within its production environment. The extra speed allows providers at Cherry Health to focus on the quality of care they are giving their patients while improving the number of patients seen.

"The more patients the provider can see in a day, it means we're actually giving better healthcare," said Brower. "If our providers can see one extra patient per day, we can see 62,000 extra patients per year. Without that speed, that would be 62,000 patients that very possibly would not have been seen by their physician."

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