

Information Builders helps organizations transform data into business value. Our business intelligence, integration, and data integrity solutions enable smarter decisionmaking, strengthen customer relationships, and drive growth.

## Halifax Health

### Snapshot

#### Organization

The largest healthcare provider in Volusia and Flagler counties, Halifax Health's community includes 678 licensed beds and more than 500 physicians on its medical staff

#### Challenge

Legacy reporting tools designed for professional analysts. Needed general purpose BI environment to empower the enterprise to access, analyze, and share information.

#### Strategy

Data warehouse and a series of data marts optimized reporting and used WebFOCUS and InfoAssist to develop selfservice dashboards, reports, and InfoApps for clinicians and administrators.

#### Results

Wide array of financial reports, regulatory reports, clinical reports, and productivity reports enable staff to collaborate and provide knowledgeable care, without having to make special requests for patient health records

#### Information Builders Solution

WebFOCUS, InfoAssist, ReportCaster, and Active Technology.



## Halifax Health Spreads Business Intelligence Throughout the Enterprise

### WebFOCUS and InfoAssist Deliver Vital Insights to Clinicians and Administrators

Halifax Health recently made a significant investment in the Meditech Data Repository (DR) to improve operational reporting and chose Information Builders' WebFOCUS for enterprise business intelligence (BI). Staff needed an environment that could leverage clinical and administrative data in Meditech, TeletTracking, eSignature, Kronos, and Allscripts applications. Managers wanted end-user dashboards that could display key performance indicators (KPIs) for inpatient quality, patient safety, core measures, and financial measures. Ideally, WebFOCUS will also support drill-down capabilities, mobile computing, offline analysis, self-service reporting, report scheduling, and intelligent report distribution.

Halifax Health is the largest hospital in Daytona Beach, Florida, serving the counties of Volusia and Flagler. Previously, Halifax Health used McKesson's Trendstar for decision support and cost accounting, but had transitioned to Allscripts' EPSi.

## “Information Builders tools access huge data sets and they perform very well.”

**Andy Foster**

Decision Support Manager  
Halifax Health

However, these tools are designed for professional analysts rather than business users. Halifax also uses Meditech NPR report writer, which requires staffing by highly-experienced IT personnel for in-house development. Halifax needed a general-purpose BI environment that emphasized self-service.

To achieve these capabilities IT professionals at Halifax considered BI solutions from Microsoft, Oracle, IBM/Cognos, SAP BusinessObjects, MicroStrategy, and Dimensional Insight before selecting Information Builders’ intelligence and integrity solutions. Its decision support team favored the Information Builders’ product set for its broad capabilities and ease-of-use. According to the Halifax developers, it was easy to create InfoApps™ and deploy dashboards and compound reports with InfoAssist and WebFOCUS. “One of the great benefits of WebFOCUS is flexibility,” says Andy Foster, decision support manager at Halifax Health. “Our business leaders need actionable knowledge so they can make decisions and continue to improve the care we provide to our patients. Through our data repository and the vast capabilities provided by the metadata layer in WebFOCUS, I can always provide a solution that fits their needs, from ad hoc reporting to self-service BI applications to the domain-specific automation we get with InfoApps.”

InfoApps provide a convenient interface through which users can analyze and interact with the data. Intuitive and visually compelling, they give the business community instant insight into a complex data set. When it comes to financial reporting, experienced developers at Halifax quickly determined WebFOCUS accomplished everything they could do with Oracle Hyperion – plus it was easier to create dashboards. Oracle provided tools for creating Hyperion dashboards that were difficult to modify. With WebFOCUS and InfoAssist, the team offered self-service BI capabilities to the entire organization, including the finance department. “Information Builders tools access huge data sets and they perform very well,” adds Foster.

### Displaying Real-Time Data for Urgent Care

To create a single source of truth for enterprise reporting, Halifax purchased Meditech DR as a staging area for clinical and administrative data. Data loaded from DR into a SQL Server data warehouse was structured for operational and financial reporting. IT also created function-specific data marts for various clinical and financial domains. Decision support personnel dubbed the new BI environment Business Related Actionable Information Network (BRAIN). They have recently used WebFOCUS and InfoAssist to create dozens of dashboards, reports, and InfoApps to provide selfservice access to their information.

One of the first BI projects was a real-time dashboard for the emergency department (ED) that displayed current patient activity, updated every minute. ED administrators use the dashboard to track incoming patients, monitor how long a patient has been in a particular room, review what tests have been ordered, and determine whether the hospital’s throughput objectives have been met or exceeded. It is easy to view hang-ups and to quantify the impact of ED activities on other departments. Personnel make decisions based on quantitative rather than anecdotal information. Because it is live data, they react immediately

## Find Out More

To find out how we can help your company succeed, talk to your local Information Builders representative today. Visit us at [informationbuilders.com](http://informationbuilders.com), or in the U.S. and Canada, call **(800) 969-4636**. To improve your skills with our solutions, visit [education.ibi.com](http://education.ibi.com).

Workers in the Infection Control department continually track patients who seek treatments for infectious diseases. Reporting is ongoing, but at the end of the quarter the department needs a complete summary report to track their progress. Previously it took more than a month to gather this information. Now they run an InfoAssist report that summarizes the data immediately.

Halifax is training power users to create their own InfoAssist reports. Some departments are techsavvy and understand their data. According to Foster, these departments are good candidates for InfoAssist.

### Leveraging the Warehouse for End-User Reporting

Halifax Health is using Information Builders' technology to successfully create financial reports, regulatory reports, clinical reports, and productivity reports. At Halifax, WebFOCUS usage is perpetually growing. Every week the decision support team gets a request from another group of users interested in BI. Other new applications on the BI roadmap include a disease-specific clinical management tool, a physician billing dashboard, enhancements to infection control tracking, and an array of reports to manage materials, control inventory, analyze health insurance claims, and more.

"I view the support team at Information Builders as a business partner," says Foster "Throughout the expansion and development of our BI environment, they have been a great resource, helping us bridge gaps between simply reporting on the data and providing true business intelligence that meets our customers' needs."