The Value of Staying Ahead of Regulatory and Compliance Needs

Hospitals and health systems can reduce their costs of regulatory compliance with technology that enhances mock surveys, enabling them to focus on regulatory preparedness.

According to an AHA report:

"An average-sized community hospital (161 beds) spends nearly $7.6 million annually on administrative activities to support compliance with the reviewed federal regulations – that figure rises to $9 million for those hospitals with PAC beds."[1]

At a typical hospital, you may hire an outside surveyor to come through the hospital once a year to conduct a mock survey on your life safety and environment of care standards. This common best practice, to have an outside set of eyes see all the things you and the team may overlook, is a necessary step in compliance. At the end of the surveyor's time on site, they produce a lengthy list of findings that span a range of importance and cost to fix. From ceiling tiles that are stained to a lack of documentation for preventative maintenance on a generator, the list is typically extensive and very specific. When they're done with the briefing, your team is handed a PDF or an Excel file of the findings… and then what?

You start to fix the things on the list. Emails are sent, teams are dispatched, line items are recategorized. The list is brought up in monthly EOC meetings and slowly, the line items turn from red to green. The amount of valuable time spent counting findings, sending email reminders, updating share drives, producing reports for committees, etc. is astounding. Hours and hours of administrative work spent checking lists and following up so that you ensure your facility has resolved the findings from your previous inspection and is prepared for the next.

At Vytal, we see a different path forward for hospitals and health systems. One that reduces the administrative burden and reduces your risk of findings at the same time. We believe that our software platform streamlines the common regulatory processes and can save both time and hard dollars.

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When we created our Regulatory module, we worked with a team of surveyors that have boots on the ground experience in every type of hospital across the United States. Through countless conversations and hands-on collaboration, we soaked in all their knowledge and built a platform that's changing the way hospitals run. We built Vytal from the perspective of facilities directors and hospital operators and included key features like:

- Auto creation of work orders

- Joint Commission and DNV standards library

- Digital binders

- Reports with assignments and completion percentages

We have seen clients gain benefits and recognize ROI almost immediately from the use of our technology.

One client recently estimated that taking all their findings and entering them into their CMMS system would have taken them at least two full days of work. With Vytal, the findings were entered into the regulatory module as the survey was being done and the regulatory work orders were created in seconds! Another client recently pointed out that they spend tens of thousands of dollars on ink and paper printing binders every year, with Vytal, the client now has sharable digital binders available.

I have spent nearly two decades in hospital operations at Penn Medicine and serving clients across the country. I am 100% confident that we are not heading towards less regulation, we are heading towards more. At the same time, the economic pressures are only increasing, and hospital operators should not expect their CFOs and boards to allocate more dollars for more man hours. Hospital operators can adopt an approach that embraces technology and innovation. An approach that will provide stability, lower risk and produce tangible value. An approach that will shift away from siloed knowledge and the onus being placed on single individuals. An approach that puts the collective knowledge of our experts and yours to work for you.

How can you help your hospital be more prepared?

Visit **www.VytalAssets.com** to learn more about our software module solutions and the problems they're designed to address