AUTOMATIC COMPUTER SHUTDOWN LEADS TO $40,000 IN ANNUAL ENERGY SAVINGS

Gundersen Health System has more than 8,500 computers within the organization. Many of those computers were left on 24 hours a day, seven days a week leading to a large draw on energy and higher energy costs. Gundersen's Information Systems department teamed up with the Envision team to come up with a solution that is saving the organization approximately $40,000 a year in energy costs.

The project involved the installation of NightWatchman® software on all of the health system's computers. The software allows unused computers that have been left on to be automatically turned off at a set time each night. In some cases, computers are set to turn back on at a specific time in the morning.

Gundersen began installing the software in several of their buildings in 2009, and completed the installation throughout their system in 2010. Energy savings have reached approximately 645,000 kW hours a year, for an energy cost reduction of $40,000 annually.

The NightWatchman software program is just one of the many innovative solutions Gundersen is using to reduce energy demand and improve efficiency through their Envision® program.

Gundersen Health System is headquartered in La Crosse, Wis., with hospitals and clinics in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. For more information on their energy conservation efforts and other energy projects, call (855) 669-1653 (toll free), email envision@gundersenhealth.org or go to gundersenenvision.org.

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