



INDUSTRY

At Children's Hospital Oakland Research Institute (CHORI), basic and clinical researchers apply ideas, insights, and discoveries generated through scientific inquiry to the treatment and prevention of human disease. Research at CHORI emphasizes pediatric disorders, with investigative results that can have far-reaching implications for people of all ages in areas such as cancer, HIV, cardiovascular disease and aging.

**CommuniGate Pro at Children's Hospital Oakland Research Institute—
Messaging Solution for CHORI**

The IT department currently supports about 60% Mac and 40% PC desktops. For CHORI's IT staff, flexibility is key. The company policy is to support a variety of server and desktop operating systems, allowing the needs of the researchers to come first. Every laboratory can choose the hardware and software they would like to use. For example if a scientist would prefer to have Macs in her laboratory, the IT staff will gladly provide and support them.

Their legacy messaging system was Novell Groupwise on Windows NT. When planning the new environment, they looked at Exchange on Windows and CommuniGate Pro on MacOS X. They determined that the hardware, software, administrative and support costs would be lower with CommuniGate Pro.

Besides cost, they really liked CommuniGate Pro's open standards support. Ben Hanes, Senior Systems Analyst said that he did not want to deploy any proprietary versions of POP, IMAP, or LDAP. Adhering to the RFC standards allows them to plug and play everything together in their environment, regardless of platform. For example they have Windows desktops running Outlook, Mac desktops running Entourage and Apple Mail, and several LDAP servers that must talk to each other.

CommuniGate Pro's built-in directory allows CHORI to achieve their vision of an integrated single sign-on system. Initially each user will be able to submit their username and password just once from any computer (Mac or PC) and automatically have access to all password protected services, email, network resources, lab areas, etc. Eventually they will replace passwords altogether and enable sign-on with magnetic card readers on each machine. They plan to increase the load up to 5,000 and migrate to the Dynamic Cluster architecture (multi-server architecture providing 99.999% availability).

Ben Hanes said he is "totally impressed" with CommuniGate Pro. In terms of functionality, he said "nothing is as complete as CommuniGate Pro for MacOS."

