

# Ekahau pinpoints emergency management resources ahead of disasters

“When disaster strikes, it is vital that hospitals quickly find irreplaceable medical staff and patients needing urgent treatment. Using Ekahau’s location tracking system in conjunction with the hospital’s existing patient databases will allow the hospital to vastly improve patient and staff tracking.”

*Shigehiro Mochizuki  
President of IBS Japan*



## Challenge

Perhaps the most significant challenge for emergency services in times of man-made or natural disaster is the ability to map and manage resources and equipment quickly and efficiently. In recognition of this challenge Nagoya Ekisaikai Hospital, one of Japan’s registered disaster emergency hospitals both tested and successfully deployed the Real Time Location System (RTLS) from Ekahau Inc. By integrating with the hospital’s existing Wi-Fi (wireless LAN) network, Ekahau was able to install its mission-critical location tracking solution and give Nagoya Ekisaikai Hospital a leading edge in critical patient care ahead of any large scale disaster..

## Solution

Hospitals, public organizations and corporations with large volumes of personnel to keep track of can all benefit from a location aware emergency management system that cost efficiently helps to map resources in times of crisis and disaster. With just one server system the Ekahau solution can track as many as 10 000 targets.

In the case of Nagoya Ekisaikai Hospital, IBS Japan Co. Ltd, an Ekahau-certified reseller and systems integrator installed the hospital with an Ekahau RTLS complete with T201 Wi-Fi (wireless LAN) tags. During an emergency simulation drill, hospital staff and ‘casualties’ in the triage area were each given a tag enabling strategic personnel to locate the correct patient and maintain real time information in hospital databases that had been integrated with the Ekahau RTLS. Results showed that the combination of T201 Wi-Fi (wireless LAN) tags and the Ekahau Positioning Engine located both staff and patients to room accuracy – tolerances which offer a major leap forward compared to most tracking systems currently available, and at a significantly lower cost.

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### Value

In times of disaster, the ability to make fast decisions and use strategic resources wisely is the critical factor which determines whether the injured live or die. In triage, connecting casualties with the necessary care personnel, being able to assess the real time capacity of hospitals and keeping track of both patients and medical staff in real time is the way forward. In addition, the Ekahau solution assists information flow allowing accurate patient data including condition and whereabouts to be relayed to the relatives of casualties. All these factors are facilitated by the use of Ekahau RTLS.

### Applications

Once configured, Ekahau Wi-Fi (wireless LAN) tags communicate over standard wireless networks sending signal strength measurements to the Ekahau Positioning Engine (EPE), a software solution running remotely in this case, in hospital databases. Simultaneously the EPE calculates the position of the tagged individual, be it a care worker or patient and relays this information to another Ekahau product, Ekahau Finder. This allows strategic personnel to see their target individuals' last known positions on a map using a web browser. The connection is made complete by the introduction of Ekahau Device Manager (EDM) which manages the configuration of T201 tags remotely via the Wi-Fi (wireless LAN) network. This application also enables strategic personnel to send key medical staff an alert via the tag's inbuilt buzzer and LED in the eventuality of an emergency.

All of these technologies fall under the umbrella of the Ekahau RTLS – the quick and easy way to locate people and assets. By streamlining operations, Ekahau RTLS allows decision-makers, be they medical administrators or security personnel to manage their resources efficiently in time and space.

### About IBS Japan Co. Ltd

IBS Japan Co. Ltd. is a system developer and business consultant in wired and wireless networking. IBS Japan's customers include major telecommunication providers, computer manufacturers and system integrators. IBS Japan is headquartered in Tokyo, Japan. For more information, please go to: [www.ibsjapan.com](http://www.ibsjapan.com)



### Solution Benefits

- No additional infrastructure costs as it makes use of the existing Wi-Fi network
- Can be used anywhere on the hospital area
- Cost and time efficient to track casualties and hospital staff



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