

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Advocate South Suburban Hospital Selects  
Vision Software Technologies Internet-Hosted Room Service**

Advocate South Suburban Hospital of Hazel Crest, IL, is gearing up for a major upgrade in patient service, using the Internet-Hosted Patient Room Service solution provided by Vision Software Technologies, Inc. (Nashville, Tenn.).

Available as an ASP (Internet-hosted) service, or in-house client/server solution, the VST Patient Room Service System assures timely flow of individual patient meal selections through to automated menu review, tray production, and delivery, enabling patient-centered, just-in-time meals to order, restaurant-style. The full application suite includes menu management, production scheduling, inventory control and purchasing, nutritional analysis, diet cardexes, automated menu checking, nutrition screening, food/drug interaction checking, catering management, and other options. VST technologies are HL7 compatible and HIPAA compliant.

Explains Thomas Giliberto, director of nutrition & food service, “Unlike a traditional foodservice management software package, the Internet-hosted opportunity requires virtually no capital.” In fact, to implement a complete diet office and meal service system for tracking patient ADT details, diet orders, special dietary requests, and personalized selections, Giliberto says his only capital investment is “three thermal printers for the kitchen, and one additional workstation, and printer for the diet office.”

Drawing on years of experience in hotels and country clubs, as well as healthcare, Giliberto, a certified executive chef, says he intends to “re-invent healthcare room service,” the fastest-growing meal delivery trend in hospitals today. “I’m utilizing my culinary background on a whole new level,” he comments. Giliberto has already begun a low-

budget kitchen renovation he describes as “rearranging the furniture [equipment]” to flow with the new personalized, cook-to-order plan for each patient’s meal as orders are called in.

Critical to a successful room service operation, he believes, is the menu. Thinking from a restaurant-style approach to the dietary needs of hospitalized patients, the menu in the works for Advocate will feature specialties from the bakery, grill, deli, and home-style comfort-food, as well as gourmet offerings like chicken vesuvio, smoked chicken quesadilla, and grilled salmon with lime-ginger sauce.

The ground-breaking project is taking shape due to the progressive healthcare delivery strategies of the Advocate Healthcare System, says Giliberto, as well as strong interdisciplinary planning. “Our information systems department has been very enthusiastic about the driving technology,” he notes, “because the solution economizes on all aspects of system maintenance. A typical management application requires a network server, with IT administrative overhead, back-ups, maintenance, and upgrades. These needs will be fully addressed by VST on our Internet-hosted system.”

In addition, Giliberto says hospital administration, nursing, marketing, pharmacy, laboratory, allied health professions, and all key players committed to patient care have joined what he calls “the circle of planning” to revolutionize meal service and nutritional care. “The bottom line,” he says, “is to satisfy our patients by responding to their needs with meals on request.”

The VST Room Service System is scheduled to go live at Advocate South Suburban Hospital in Fall 2006, and is being designed to serve as a model for implementation at other Advocate hospitals, Giliberto says.

VST, Inc., serving the healthcare foodservice industry for more than 27 years, has been a pioneer in interfacing clinical systems to deliver real-time information for clinical nutritional care, and has launched turnkey support for Internet-based room service applications in hospitals around the country.

Advocate South Suburban Hospital is a 291-bed, acute care facility that serves Chicago’s south suburbs. The not-for-profit hospital is part of Advocate Health Care, one of the leading, integrated healthcare systems in the nation.

**More Information**

For more information, call Vision Software Technologies, 724.452.8794, e-mail [info@vstech.com](mailto:info@vstech.com), or visit the VST website: [www.vstech.com](http://www.vstech.com).