

A Swedish Healthcare System Analyzes and Reports on Millions of Tests with Labvantage Medical Suite



Replacing Separate, Legacy Systems with One Modern Web-Based LIS

Public health, healthcare, and dental care account for 90 percent of the \$1.2 billion (USD equivalent) budget for Region Jönköping, a province in southern Sweden, where millions of patient test results are analyzed and reported today with LabVantage Medical Suite.

The suite is an all-in-one multidisciplinary laboratory information system (LIS) for clinical chemistry, microbiology, pathology, hormone, environmental medicine, and genetic laboratories.

There are three hospitals in the cities of Jönköping, Värnamo, and Eksjö, with a total of 45 health centers, of which 14 are owned by private companies. Region Jönköping's 353,000 residents have a freedom of choice of which health center they primarily will turn to – all health centers have the same duties, rules, and payments, regardless of the ownership.

LabVantage Medical Suite was deployed to replace four separate legacy systems with one modern web-based LIS, enabling Region Jönköping to increase accessibility across the province and integrate the disciplines of clinical chemistry and microbiology. Other expected benefits included more effective and improved operations, improved patient status tracking, and easier access to patients' historical records.

LabVantage Medical Suite replaced four separate legacy systems in a Swedish province to support three hospital labs and 30 primary care labs with a total of 340 users.

Eva Möller, project manager at Region Jönköping, led the LIS project group consisting of 15 experts with a variety of specialties. Her colleague, IT Planning Manager Ninna Ström, managed the steering committee of seven representatives from Procurement, IT, Medical Diagnostics, and Laboratory Medicine.

The system selection process included a strict rating system comparing the suppliers themselves and system functionality. "In the beginning, two of the three suppliers evaluated were quite even. We met them and specified what was included in their solutions," said Möller. "We also looked at the price – not only the one-time payment but also, how much the solution would cost over the years to come."

The Connected Lab through the LIS Control Center

The LabVantage Medical Suite has been in daily use since 2012. The system has approximately 340 users in the three hospital laboratories and in 30 primary care laboratories.

"As our laboratories carry out 4.3 million test results annually, LabVantage Medical Suite is pretty handy in analyzing and verifying whether the results are O.K. or not. The results are ready for the patients, either electronically or in paper format. Moreover, LabVantage gives us compiled statistics of our operations for us to further elaborate," said Ström.



Success through Collaboration and Active Engagement

All in all, Region Jönköping's project team launched the project on-time, even as the steering group tightened the timetable. "The project went very smoothly. Special thanks goes to our project steering group which prepared the delivery contract, provided sufficient resources, and guaranteed that everything was proceeding. Equally, our success factors included the competent, devoted, and united project group – as well as our cooperative supplier," said Möller.

Ström and Möller also speak well of the collaboration across organizational boundaries and working roles, as well as proper project communication in-house and between Region Jönköping and the LabVantage Medical Suite implementation team.

After the primary implementation, Region Jönköping's project group and the LabVantage Medical Suite team have had follow-up meetings every half year, fixing possible bugs, defining prevailing needs, and prioritizing further developments.

"It is a well-functioning system indeed. We have continuously updated it and put new functionalities into use" Ström said. "One ongoing project is expanding the number of connected instruments within primary care laboratories."

Having had both hands on the system implementation, Möller has a word of advice for anyone planning a similar process: "Do the requirement specifications carefully before the project. Moreover, we have learned that it is crucial to allocate resources for the project in your own organization, and to reserve enough time. Those who will be using the system must actively participate in the project."

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— Ninna Ström, IT Planning Manager

Region Jönköping leverages the ability to easily integrate numerous analysis instruments into the system: altogether it has 60 analytical instruments connected in the three hospital laboratories and over 80 instruments in primary care.

In addition to clinical chemistry and microbiology, other important integrations include an order scanning solution, web service to patient demographics, debiting system, and integration to the data warehouse. Region Jönköping has also started to use the logistics functionality – information related to distributing and receiving samples within and outside the LabVantage LIS.



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ABOUT LABVANTAGE SOLUTIONS

A recognized leader in enterprise laboratory software solutions, LabVantage Solutions dedicates itself to improving customer outcomes by transforming data into knowledge. The LabVantage informatics platform is highly configurable, integrated across a common architecture, and 100% browser-based to support hundreds of concurrent users. Deployed on-premise, via the cloud, or SaaS, it seamlessly interfaces with instruments and other enterprise systems – enabling true digital transformation. The platform consists of the most modern laboratory information management system (LIMS) available, integrated electronic laboratory notebook (ELN), laboratory execution system (LES), and scientific data management system (SDMS); and, for healthcare settings, a laboratory information system (LIS). We support more than 1500 global customer sites in the life sciences, pharmaceutical, medical device, biobank, food & beverage, consumer packaged goods, oil & gas, genetics/diagnostics, and healthcare industries. Headquartered in Somerset, NJ., with global offices, LabVantage has, for four decades, offered its comprehensive portfolio of products and services to enable customers to innovate faster in the R&D cycle, improve manufactured product quality, achieve accurate record-keeping, and comply with regulatory requirements.

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