

# Improving Digital Mammography Workflow

Radiology Ltd.

Tuscon, AZ

Home to one of the largest physician-owned group practices in Southern Arizona, Radiology Ltd. has been providing diagnostic imaging services for over sixty years. Their practice performs 600,000 procedures annually, including 40,000 mammography exams. In 2005, Radiology Ltd. switched from film-based, analog mammography to digital mammography. During the switch, radiologist reading times almost doubled, and PACSGEAR was called in to help.



“The increased reading times were largely due to the problem of reviewing prior analog images on a view box while interpreting the current study on a digital monitor,” explains Ron Cornett, PACS Administrator for Radiology Ltd.

To meet their workload requirements, Radiology Ltd. selected PacsSCAN Film™, which scans and sends film-based mammography priors to PACS. “PacsSCAN Film’s ability to queue studies – scan one case while simultaneously enter patient information for the next case – greatly enhances throughput,” said Ron. “Moreover, the ability to send studies to multiple servers is important in our high volume, multi-center operation.”

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*Ron Cornett, PACS Administrator  
Radiology Ltd.*

To further improve radiologist efficiency, Radiology Ltd. implemented mammography-specific features found in PacsSCAN Film. These features support the DICOM Digital Mammography protocol and allow their digital mammography system to display prior films in the same order and orientation as their new digital studies. The resulting hanging protocols quickly improved productivity. “With PacsSCAN Film we have seen radiologist read times reduced by 30 seconds per case. Across the 40,000 mammography procedures we do each year, this equates to over eight weeks of physician time,” Ron concluded.

 **Get Started** For more information about PACSGEAR’s document and multimedia connectivity solutions, contact us at (925) 846-9600 or email [getstarted@pacsgear.com](mailto:getstarted@pacsgear.com)