

The St. Anthony Hospital (Sint Antonius Ziekenhuis) in Nieuwegein, Pathology department

## *Time saving and efficiency by integrating speech technology*

The St. Anthony Hospital in Nieuwegein, Netherlands, is a pioneer in the field of speech recognition. The Pathology department changed over several years ago to the speech technology of G2 Speech. This technology is linked to the Pathology Information System (Palga). The hospital is reaping the benefits of this investment.

### **13 PCs with speech recognition**

The St. Anthony Hospital has 584 beds, 137 medical specialists and about 2700 co-workers. The Pathology department works not only for the rest of the hospital, but also for the Hofpoort Hospital in Woerden, the Mesos Medical Centre in Utrecht and for the GPs in the region. Each year about 30,000 examinations are carried out.

The department has three pathologists, two doctors assistants and 26 co-workers. The Pathology department has 13 PCs for speech recognition. There are seven dictation points, two of which are in the autopsy chamber. There are six processing stations in the secretarial department.

### **User friendly**

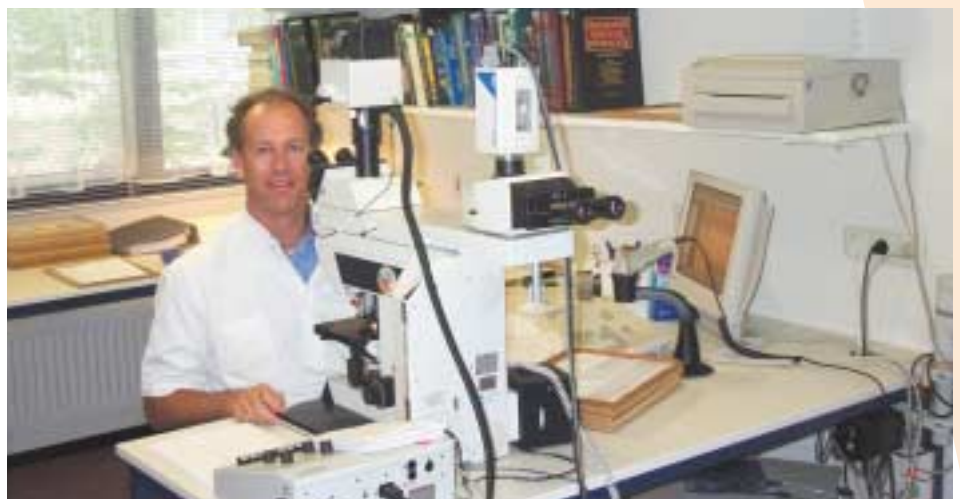
Until 2000 the department worked with an analogue dictation system and with Palga. Due to the shortage of secretaries however, the workload increased and the speed of reporting was endangered. At the beginning of 2000 a start was made with the

implementation of the MediSpeech® speech recognition from G2 Speech. The head of the Pathology department, pathologist Dr. C.A. Seldenrijk: 'We chose MediSpeech® because the system is complete and very user friendly. Furthermore a link to Palga was developed, so that the configuration works as an integrated system.'

*Pathologist dr. C.A. Seldenrijk is long grown used to the benefits of speech technology.*

### **Used to speech recognition**

Pathologist Seldenrijk is familiar with speech recognition; 'We have been working with MediSpeech® for some time now. We have long grown used to the benefits of speech technology. The speed of completing reports, for example, has been increased considerably. We can also train up new secretaries more quickly. The terms which are difficult for them, now appear directly as text on the screen. We can also prioritise reports, so that the dictation in question is done first. Furthermore, it is very simple to trace reports. Little has changed for the pathologist. Initially there were a few qualms. But in the end both the pathologists and thesecretaries were very satisfied with this system.'



### The method of work

The system works very simply. Using a scanner the barcode number is read-in that corresponds to the patient examination number. The pathologist dictates his/her report at the macro-scropy or microscopy workstation before sending it on. The dictation goes via the speech recognition server to the secretarial department. On the basis of the audio file, the secretary corrects the text or makes any necessary additions.

co-operation between the ICT department, Pathology and G2 Speech is the primary demand. Thanks to intensive co-operation, it was possible to implement the system quickly' according to Seldenrijk. 'G2 Speech regularly updates the software. Expansion or adaptation is always negotiable. If there are any problems, the helpdesk is easily accessible. Via a modem, one of the helpdesk staff can log in to the system and fix the



*At the secretariat, the reports are processed further.*

Once it has been signed off, the report is stored in Palga. In Palga and via a link with the HIS (Hospital Information System) the reports are available for fellow specialists.

### Communication

What is required to install MediSpeech® successfully? 'Good

fault. In my opinion, the Pathology department has been working much more quickly and efficiently by using MediSpeech®. The integration of Palga, MediSpeech® and the HIS is essential for the working and the user friend-liness of the system. G2 Speech provided very good guidance in all of this. Speech technology has been a tremendous advance for us!'

**MediSpeech®**



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