

# Aethon Redefines Hospital Asset Utilization

Aethon Inc, a provider of mobile autonomous robots for practical business applications, has introduced its mobile autonomous asset utilization solution designed to locate, deliver, and recover hospital equipment.

The solution features HOMER™, Aethon's RFID-based asset tracking system, and TUG™, the company's asset delivery and recovery system. These two robotic systems will work together to enable hospitals to improve staff efficiency and satisfaction, increase asset utilization, decrease equipment rentals, and improve regulatory compliance.

"While it's critical that hospital staff knows where constantly moving and often hard to find equipment is at all times, the ultimate value is when the equipment is automatically recovered and delivered to the location where it's needed when it's needed," said Aldo Zini, CEO, Aethon. "The only asset utilization solution that allows hospitals to avoid major infrastructure investments, HOMER and TUG improve workflow dynamics, lower operational costs, and improve quality of care."

HOMER's asset tracking capabilities are an outgrowth of technology made possible by TUG. Leveraging the TUG platform, HOMER employs a single mobile antenna that eliminates the typical infrastructure hurdles of some systems. This translates into a more efficient organization and location of pumps, wheelchairs, monitors, respirators, beds, and virtually any other assets hospitals are interested in tracking.

HOMER, can seamlessly merge with existing hospital systems, requires minimal installation, and can be integrated into existing asset management software. HOMER works with active RFID tags and because it can use any third-party tag, it is tag independent. Aethon provides installation, tag selection and setup, software integration, training, and support. The company offers per tag (asset tracked) pricing, allowing hospitals to control their investment and avoid the large capital expense associated with typical site licenses.

TUG is an autonomous mobile robot that requires no extra infrastructure investment, is simple to install, and has many applications such as nursing, laboratory, central supply, pharmacy, medical records, and more. Currently, the TUG delivery and recovery system is being used in hospitals across 75 sites. Many hospitals have deployed multiple TUGs to save time and money, while increasing staff and patient satisfaction.

"Aethon has redefined how to deploy an asset utilization solution, making it affordable and easy to install," said John Lewis, president and CEO, Armstrong County Memorial Hospital, a 173-bed medical facility in Kittanning, Penn. "We see good ideas every day that have the potential to improve the quality of care for our patients. Unfortunately, the vast majority of them are too cost prohibitive from both an acquisition and installation perspective for the average community hospital. HOMER and TUG are practical innovations that put the benefits of asset utilization within the reach of hospitals like ours."