Challenge
At HMHS, requests for simple telecom administration services such as moves, adds, and changes, were significantly high. HMHS needed a solution that would help reduce some of the telecom administration burden from its help desk staff, and increase operational efficiency. The company wanted to allow users to provision and manage some of their own telecom services, and synchronize user information across IT and telecom.

Solution
HMHS chose to implement Starfish’s Self Service Manager solution, a web-based portal for end users to provision and manage their own telecom services in a controlled and safe way. Starfish Self Service Manager was integrated with the HMHS enterprise Active Directory (AD) to authenticate and authorize user access, as well as automatically synchronize information between the Avaya Aura® infrastructure and AD.

The first month after deploying the Starfish Self Service Manager solution, HMHS used the portal to:

- Provision 300 new station requests
- De-provision 200 accounts
- Reset 750 voicemail and telephone passwords

Highmark Health, a Pittsburgh, PA based enterprise that employs more than 35,000 people nationwide and serves 40 million Americans in all 50 states, is the third largest integrated health care delivery and financing system in the nation. Highmark Health is the parent company of Highmark Inc., Allegheny Health Network, and HM Health Solutions. Highmark Inc. and its subsidiaries and affiliates provide health insurance to 5.3 million members in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Delaware as well as dental insurance, vision care and related health products through a national network of diversified businesses that include United Concordia Companies, HM Insurance Group, Davis Vision and Visionworks. Allegheny Health Network is the parent company of an integrated delivery network that includes eight hospitals, a community-based network of physician organizations, and a group purchasing organization, ambulatory surgery centers, and health and wellness pavilions in western Pennsylvania. HM Health Solutions (HMHS) focuses on meeting the information technology platform and other business needs of the Highmark Health enterprise as well as unaffiliated health insurance plans by providing proven business processes, expert knowledge and integrated cloud-based platforms.
Providing end users and delegated administrators with self-service tools enables enterprises such as HMHS to automate and streamline their manual telecom business processes.

—Robert Hankin, Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Starfish Associates

Users can now easily provision their own phones and voice mailboxes, manage phone options such as button settings, reset phone and mailbox passwords, and even de-provision unused telecom resources. All transactions are controlled, authorized and logged. The changes are virtually instantaneous – no more waiting for a response from the help desk – and the telecom staff can concentrate on more critical communications projects.

Self Service Manager leverages Starfish’s intelligent Directory Synchronization engine to keep Avaya Aura Communication Manager and Active Directory up-to-date in real-time. Phone numbers are automatically populated in AD when new stations are added, and user names are automatically populated in Communication Manager. This tight integration helps ensure data integrity and accuracy when authenticating users and authorizing access to telecom resources.

Results

After rolling out the Self Service Manager throughout the organization, HMHS couldn’t be more pleased with the results. Staff members were delighted to put the new telecom self-service portal to use. In the first month the application was deployed, 300 new station requests were provisioned and 200 accounts were de-provisioned. In addition, more than 750 voicemail and telephone password resets were successfully completed through the portal.
"Implementing Starfish Self Service Manager has automated and streamlined provisioning and de-provisioning of multi-vendor unified communication resources for our customers," remarked Matt Sentz, Senior Architect, HMHS. “With nearly 20,000 users, self-service has significantly reduced the effort telecom analysts devote to moves, adds and changes allowing them to focus on career and skill development.”

Whether it is a new division or small call center, the flexibility and scalability of the Starfish self-service solutions allow us to quickly deliver telecom resources.

—Pamela Biller, Senior Infrastructure Engineer, HMHS

Learn More
To learn more about Avaya solutions and DevConnect Technology Partner Starfish Associates, contact your Avaya Account Manager or authorized Avaya reseller. Or, visit us online at https://www.devconnectmarketplace.com/

About Starfish Associates
Starfish is a leading provider of telecom software solutions that enable enterprises to streamline and optimize telecom business processes. Starfish solutions enable our customers to experience wide ranging benefits including improved operational efficiencies, enhanced employee productivity and reduced operating expenses. Its multi-vendor, unified communication and contact center solutions are deployed in large global enterprises and Fortune 500 companies. For more information, visit http://www.starfishassociates.com

The solution for HM Health Solutions includes:

Starfish Self Service Manager, an intuitive web-based self-service portal for end users to perform authenticated and authorized password resets for phone and voicemail, change phone settings and request telecom services such as provisioning a new phone.

Avaya Aura Communication Manager, a foundational element of the Avaya Aura Platform, delivers rich voice, video, mobility, messaging and engagement capabilities on a resilient, distributed network that supports SIP/IP-based, digital and analog communication devices.

Avaya Call Management System, a database, administration, and reporting application for enterprises to monitor and analyze their contact center performance, viewing live, real-time information and immediately seeing the results of their adjustments.
About Avaya
Avaya is a leading, global provider of customer and team engagement solutions and services available in a variety of flexible on-premise and cloud deployment options. Avaya's fabric-based networking solutions help simplify and accelerate the deployment of business critical applications and services. For more information, please visit www.avaya.com.

About DevConnect
DevConnect is Avaya's developer and technology partner program. Through a free Registered level membership in DevConnect, members are able to access a wide range of developer resources, including APIs, SDKs, technical support and training. Enhanced Membership options offer higher levels of technical support, compliance testing and co-marketing benefits. To learn more or register for membership, visit www.devconnectprogram.com.

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