

VisionTree® Professional and Conference Case Study using Wireless PDA Technology

VisionTree successfully applied to Malcom Baldrige Award Recipient's Leadership Retreat

August 2, 2005 - Saint Luke's Hospital Kansas City (2003 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award® Recipient) applied VisionTree Professional and Conference for the second year in a row to achieve the highest rated retreat in their history with 98% of participants rating their satisfaction with the meeting as 'very satisfied' or 'better'.

Meeting planning incorporated the VisionTree Conference Pre-meeting survey website that captured specific and relevant topics important to the management team. This allowed for preparation time to be cut down significantly by developing agenda topics driven by the response from the attendee's surveys. This information led to a data-driven presentation of survey responses with additional topics instantly evaluated by participants using the VisionTree wireless PDA system.



Pictured Above: Participant using VisionTree system to take surveys.

VisionTree Professional was incorporated as an effective group action planning tool in break-out sessions for brainstorming and discussion. By loading the VisionTree Professional platform with topics relevant to the hospital's strategic direction, the steps in the software focused each team on generating ideas and action items specific to their initiatives.

The 80+ management team also collectively weighed in on specific ideas each using their Axim handheld device. VisionTree then prioritized the ideas in real-time through a statistical mean of each person's input. The free text keyboard-based input using the handheld devices not only supported numerous question types and real-time responses, but also allowed participants to send questions to the front of the room for discussion.



Pictured Above: Participants engage in Live Q&A.

To take the team into discussions of the future, an on-the-fly panel of top innovators was created using the polling functionality of the VisionTree system. The flexibility of incorporating both the VisionTree Conference Platform for surveys and live, two-way audience participation, along with VisionTree Professional in the break-out sessions for group strategic planning stimulated an environment of creative and actionable discussion combined with meaningful, high-paced interaction.

Follow-up to the retreat including graphical results, forum-style Q&A and pictures of the event is being presented on a post-meeting website, which is a part of the VisionTree Conference Platform package. Since the retreat, VisionTree Professional has again been successfully applied using core strategic measures and the VisionTree Scorecard to delineate to go/no-go decisions on an employee input level.

VisionTree uses the latest Dell Axim™ Technology



The very positive response in using the VisionTree system coupled with the latest in Dell technology will undoubtedly encourage its continued use at meetings and retreats well into the future. Most importantly, the quality ideas and action items captured by VisionTree will provide a springboard for immediate, actionable follow-through with a baseline to measure and track performance in a consistent, on-going basis – and support Saint Luke's Health System in continuing to deliver on its vision and market leadership position.