



CASE STUDY INTRAPACE:

IntraPace is solving a heavyweight challenge using Contour.

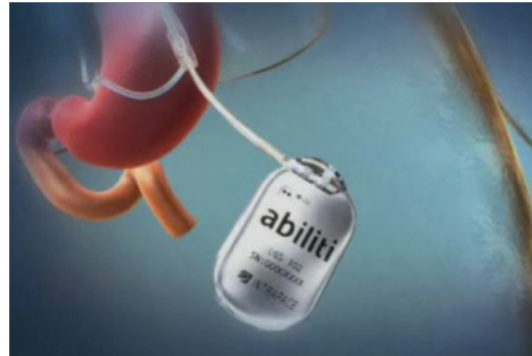
The World Health Organization predicts that 2.3 billion people around the world will be overweight and 700 million will be obese by 2015. The growth rate for weight issues in the U.S. alone has tripled since 1980. Ouch! But, Americans aren't alone in their growing waistslines. Many other developed countries are experiencing increasing obesity rates as well. Despite billions being spent every year on weight loss products, few people actually achieve the long-term results they need to reduce their weight to a healthy range. Thus, obesity is reaching epidemic proportions and remains one of the biggest global healthcare issues today. Hmm, starting to feel a little guilty about eating that 2nd doughnut?

IntraPace, a medical device company based in Mountain View, California, is working on an innovative product that is tackling obesity in a new way. Backed by Johnson & Johnson, Boston Scientific and other investors in healthcare and bioscience, IntraPace is developing the first "intelligent" implantable device for obesity intervention called abiliti, which is currently in clinical trials in Europe and not yet available in the marketplace. As the product team at IntraPace develops this unique medical device, they're managing all the requirements, both hardware and software, along with its related documents within Jama Contour – enabling them to control changes and keep everyone in sync.

Recently, we spoke with Mace Volzing, the software development manager at IntraPace and asked him a few questions about his team's use of Contour and their process for developing products.

Tell us a little about your role and the new product your team is building.

I manage the software development for our new abiliti medical device that is used by people to lose weight. Once implanted, the abiliti system is designed to detect when a person consumes food and drinks. Using sensors, the system tracks what they eat and their physical activity, then it uses this information to deliver therapy at the right time and monitor the patient's progress against weight loss goals. It works using what is called "gastric stimulation" by delivering a series of low-energy electrical impulses to the stomach to give a person the feeling of being full before they actually are full, thus helping them consume fewer calories. Most people often eat until they feel full, so abiliti acts as a kind of an internal gatekeeper between them and the Supersize Fries they don't need. The system then also provides a detailed picture of the data, which can be downloaded and reviewed by patients and their physicians at the doctor's office to track results over time.



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What are the goals of the projects you're managing within Contour?

In terms of Contour, I was looking for a tool to manage the flow of requirements from a Marketing Specification to system requirements down through to the detailed hardware and software requirements, and finally to validation of Test Plans. Keeping the interactions between all of these documents up to date is a challenge and finding the right tool makes a laborious task painless. Contour is the right tool, we use it to manage all of our requirements.

What development process do you use and how has it changed in the last year?

In the medical device world, requirements documentation is very important for compliance. It all starts with a Marketing Specification and flows down to a Product Requirements document. We have design descriptions, API definitions, risk analysis and validation test plans all being managed and kept in sync by Contour. All of the documents are cross-referenced for traceability, and Contour makes keeping these relationships up to date an easy task.

What's the biggest challenge you and your organization face in managing this process?

Change! Any single change can ripple through many different documents. Having a way through Contour to manage the "ripple effect" is incredibly valuable.



What were you using before Contour to manage requirements?

Word documents and needles in my eye. Actually I was lucky, I came into this project at the right time and was able to secure Contour in the early stages of development. Contour is one of the best tools we have added to our process!

Why did you choose Contour? How will it help you be more successful?

I searched through many solutions available for this capability and Jama Contour was by far the best implementation of a tool for managing requirements. It is simple to use and intuitive to learn. I was able to get our entire staff to buy into using the tool within 3 weeks of launching the software at our company.

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About Jama Software

Thousands of users worldwide. Billions in R&D projects managed within Contour.

Jama Software is the leader in collaborative requirements management solutions for improving enterprise collaboration and managing complex software development projects. Its Web application, Jama Contour, helps organizations manage the entire requirements management lifecycle through an intuitive, easy-to-use interface that brings people, process and data together to ensure software quality is delivered as specified.

Customers, from agile start-ups to the largest and most sophisticated technology and IT organizations in the world, turn to Jama to help drive innovation, improve the decision-making process and harness the collective genius of all stakeholders involved in building great software. For more information please visit: <http://www.jamasoftware.com>.