

USE CASE | HEALTHCARE

## LinkSmart® with San-a-Key® Software Prevents the Spread of Germs at the Clinical Desktop



Every year, tens of thousands of patients enter the hospital and become sickened during their stay by a Hospital-Acquired Infection (HAI) that results in death. For some time now, the healthcare industry has worked diligently to combat the increasing pervasiveness of HAIs by adopting structured in-house hand-washing programs, hand-washing observance programs, infection prevention education and training, stepped up environmental cleaning, and stringent cleanliness standards. Improved hand hygiene continues to be a priority for the healthcare industry, with a recent Leapfrog survey of over 1,500 U.S. hospitals finding that 99% had adopted organization-wide education and training programs for preventing HAIs related to poor hand hygiene. Even so, with 1.7 million HAIs contracted in the U.S. each year (representing a staggering 7-10% of total hospital admissions), and HAI-associated deaths approaching 100,000 annually, much remains to be done in furthering the halt of preventable infections.

Numerous reliable studies point to keyboards as being a major culprit in harboring prolific, virulent strains of bacteria, such as *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and *Clostridium difficile* (C. diff), that cause serious infection and death. Despite this fact, and adoption of hygiene programs, few hospitals have a sustainable and effective procedure in place for cleaning keyboards.

Conventional keyboards found in most healthcare facilities are difficult to clean, particularly in the midst of patient care. Typical disinfection methods, if they are employed at all, have proven inefficient, time-consuming, inadequate, inconvenient, and unsustainable.

### **FEATURES & BENEFITS:** Clinical desktop infection control

- Easy-to-use system for eliminating cross-contamination
- Patented LinkSmart® button disables keys for disinfection
- Animated, onscreen schematic guides user cleaning
- San-a-Key® offers user-defined, scheduled cleaning
- Push reminders ensure keyboards stay clean 24/7/365
- San-a-Key® documents who, when, where of cleaning
- Cleaning data is amalgamated in customizable reports
- Cleaning data helps spot infection-related trends
- Health IT and Windows 64-bit compatible
- Approved germicidal wipes remove 99% of bacteria
- More effective than dishwasher-safe keyboards
- Enterprise-wide solution for aiding infection control
- Essential component of your IP program
- Helps avoid HAIs and associated regulatory penalties

### **CHALLENGE:** CMS has imposed penalties related to HAIs

An acute care hospital has been slapped with a fine and reduction in the payments it receives from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. High rates of hospital-acquired conditions caused by MRSA and C. diff are cited as one reason the hospital will need to implement improved infection control measures across every department.

A combination of conventional and dishwasher-safe keyboards is being utilized in patient rooms, OR, on mobile carts, and within treatment rooms. While the hospital has a hand-washing program in place, keyboard cleanliness is often ignored. Environmental Services quickly wipes down keyboards on an occasional basis, and submersible keyboards are rarely removed from service for disinfection due to the inconvenience and manpower required to do so.

Realizing that traditional and submersible keyboards can become cross-contaminated after every use, the hospital seeks a realistic solution to infection control at the desktop to avoid future penalties that impact care.



**San-a-Key®'s onscreen guide ensures users disinfect the entire keyboard during every cleaning session**

**SOLUTION:** KSI LinkSmart® 1700 and 1800 series disinfect-able keyboards with San-a-Key® software

Cross-contamination is dramatically reduced when using the LinkSmart® cleaning button with San-a-Key® software to sanitize keyboards in place with germicidal wipes. Clinicians are empowered to take charge of keyboard disinfection using a simple infection control system that maintains the cleanliness of KSI keyboards on a scheduled basis.

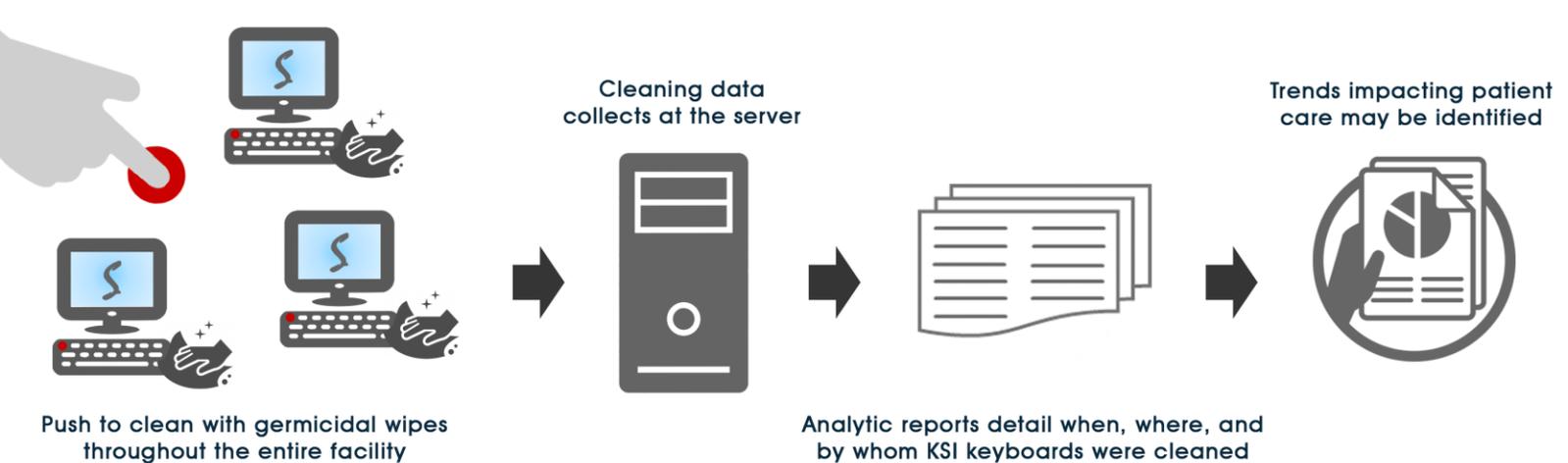
San-a-Key® software serves as an aid to not only guide the disinfection process, but collect user cleaning data at the server. Data points are transformed into meaningful analytic reports that detail when, where and by whom keyboards are cleaned, and where lack of cleaning has occurred throughout the facility. Reports are customizable to best organize cleaning data to suit customer needs.

Push reminders that prompt end users to clean on a scheduled basis also reinforce the need for clinicians to be proactive and ever-vigilant in preventing the spread of germs.

Administrators now have an effective tool at hand to monitor keyboard sanitation throughout the facility and identify trends that negatively impact care.

Engineered for healthcare, LinkSmart® with San-a-Key® was designed for convenience and ease of use, while offering a realistic approach to infection control using approved wipes already in use by healthcare.

With a simple press of our red button, LinkSmart® with San-a-Key® is the answer to infection control at the desktop.



Push to clean with germicidal wipes throughout the entire facility

Analytic reports detail when, where, and by whom KSI keyboards were cleaned