

### Egton has recently expanded its tape validation service to include **Vision, GPASS and Synergy** clinical systems.

The expansion of Egton's successful Tape Validation Service (TVS) means that more and more practices across the UK can now take advantage of regular validations and the peace of mind it brings.

In the unfortunate event that your clinical server is stolen, damaged through fire or flood or suffers irreparable hardware failure - it is essential that your back up tape can be read and the data held be reconstructed.

TVS will regularly check and highlight whether your clinical server back up is working properly - helping to ensure data integrity and business continuity.

*Up to 10 per cent of all back up tapes are unusable*

#### What is TVS?

Practices and PCTs rely heavily on the data backed up to tapes. TVS verifies that your server back up tapes can be relied upon to recreate the clinical database held on your clinical system.

**One-in-ten standard software back up tapes prove to be faulty or unreadable when called upon for emergency data recovery.**

Misaligned recording heads and errors during the tape writing process can cause clinical data to corrupt, yet it still appears to be present on the tape - meaning the practice is unaware of any problems.

The best way to check that your data is intact and fully retrievable is to have your back up tapes validated regularly.

Egton recommends that a computerised practice has a back up tape validation at least four times per year. Paperless practices are more at risk and advised to validate back up tapes every month.

A team of IT experts will thoroughly test your back up tapes to ensure that all your data can be regenerated in the event of server damage, theft or hardware failure.

#### Five day express turnaround

TVS agreements of at least four validations per year will qualify for our five day express turnaround.

The express turnaround guarantees that the Tape Validation Service and report will be dispatched within five working days from receipt of your back up tape.

#### TVS in use: Park Parade Surgery, Harrogate

**Park Parade Surgery, Harrogate has been successfully validating back up tapes with TVS for more than two years.**

Sarah Thompson, Practice Manager, speaks highly of the Egton Tape Validation Service:

*"Using TVS brings me a sense of peace of mind. I can validate tapes almost at leisure, because the process is so simple.*

*"The reminder email arrives to let us know that a validation is due - then I just drop the latest tape into one of the pre-paid envelopes and pop it into the post office. Our CD archive, report and original tape are always returned promptly and whenever that has been any issues with our back up tape - we've been notified immediately.*

*"One of the great advantages I've found is that the whole process is completed quickly, without much involvement from practice staff."*

**With TVS you can be confident that your clinical data and patient details are safely backed up and retrievable.**

## Frequently asked questions about TVS

**Q. The server says that they nightly back up has been successful. Why do we need a tape validation?**

A. Tapes and tape drives are notoriously individual. It is often the case that a back up tape that works okay with your practice tape drive, cannot be read by other servers.

Restoring your back up tape on an Egton validation server confirms that your tape drive can be read from a different server and tape drive other than your own.

In the event of data restoration due to server theft or fire damage - it is essential that a new or external server can read your back up tape.

**Q. Is the back up tape returned to the practice after validation and can it be re-used?**

A. Yes, the back up tape is always returned and can continue to be used in the normal tape rotation.

**Q. Does our practice qualify for a discount if purchasing TVS in conjunction with other practices, via our PCT?**

A. A bulk purchasing discount is available if a number of practices sign up to a single TVS agreement, invoiced to a single organisation. Please ask your PCT representative to contact Egton on **0845 124 5245** to find out more about the TVS bulk purchasing scheme.

### The cost of TVS

	Total annual cost
Buy <b>one</b> tape validation per year at a cost of £149 per validation	<b>£149+VAT</b>
Buy <b>two</b> tape validations per year for only £139 per validation	<b>£278+VAT</b>
Buy <b>four</b> tape validations per year for only £129 per validation	<b>£516+VAT</b>
Buy <b>twelve</b> tape validations for only £89 per validation	<b>£1068+VAT</b>

### TVS by Egton provides practices and PCTs with:

- A **validation reminder message** - via email to the practice
- Prepaid **recorded delivery envelopes** for each scheduled validation
- **Tape validation tests** - which check that back up tapes are readable and correctly formatted.
- **Re-creation of the practice database** at Egton.
- A **validation report** containing data from a 'dummy record' to ensure that practice data is valid.
- A **statistical report** containing population and age/sex data, based on analysis of your database.
- A **CD or DVD archive** of the clinical database along with the original validated back up tape.

*TVS is now available for a wide range of clinical systems including EMIS LV and PCS, Vision by In Practice Systems, GPASS and iSoft Synergy.*

If you would like to take advantage of TVS at your practice, please contact the IM&T manager at your PCT to request funding and register your interest. For further information on how your practice can benefit from TVS, please visit [www.egton.net](http://www.egton.net) or telephone **0845 124 5245**.