Work Completed

Week 7 ended with ordering the new converter for the S/5 Avance, which should help us network with the device. This will give us a chance to try and retrieve data directly from the S/5 Avance. The RS 232 to RS 422 converter came in the mail this past Friday and is ready for testing. I plan to do this testing either Monday or Tuesday of this coming week.

I spent most of the week working with the protocol that would help to request data packets from the Solar 8000i and the S/5 Avance. I wrote a few different possible strings that could be used to request the data. I am hoping that the request packets for each of the devices are similar in nature. Seeing as both the devices are supported and run by the same company they may have similar or exactly the same protocol. I am waiting on a return email about the technical manual for the S/5 Avance.

Figure 1: RS232 to RS422 converter.

I spent a great deal of my time on the phone this week between Greg Harris our sales representative and the technical support for GE Healthcare. Denise with the technical support team at GE Healthcare informed me that there was a web page that showed all the protocol for data acquisition through the Solar 8000i vital signs monitor. She said that to get the URL I would just have to talk to my sales associate who could get it from his boss. I asked her to send the information about the web page that I wanted to Greg Harris and to have him give me the URL. I also followed up with an email to him.
to try and make sure that everything was understood. I waited two days for his return email which I had to forward to Joseph McIsaac just to get a response from Greg Harris. When I got the response he said his boss and himself had never heard of the URL before and that I had everything he had.

I then called Greg Harris on his cell phone to explain what the URL was and express how badly I needed it. He assured me that he, his boss, and his boss’s boss had no idea how to get this URL. Then I called back the technical support line for GE Healthcare whom I spoke to AL. AL informed me that the URL should be obtained from Greg Harris’s Project manager. To make sure that Greg Harris would be clear I had to have AL call and tell him directly what to do. I also had him email Greg so that he could not forget to talk to his boss. Greg Harris has yet to contact me back after this point. This is making it very difficult to get the information I need to perform the “hand-shacking” protocol that is needed to retrieve the vital signs data and store it in a server.

Future Work

This coming week I plan to start off by going into Hartford hospital to test the programs that I have constructed and use the new converter to connect to them. Hopefully we will get some example data that we can begin to parse and test. I was thinking about hooking up the fake EKG generator and getting a sample set of data to being to work with. On Monday I plan to call Greg Harris back and try again to get the URL for the website that can help me with data acquisition protocol.

Project Review

The past week has been frustrating trying to obtain a website that can possibly give me the answers that I have been looking for to obtain the sample set of data that I have needed so that I can parse and work with the data. I think that we have been working well as a team in the past week and focusing on what we each need to do. Hopefully we will be able to test the PDA this week and see how it performs with the data transfer using the Bluetooth technology.

Hours Worked

Hours spent on project between (10/9-10/15), Week 8: 12