5.2.1. THE VALUE OF DICONDE IN MULTI-MODAL NDT ENVIRONMENTS

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DICOM driven from the medical industry has greatly advanced how hospitals communicate and the way in which they operate. The evolution of DICONDE from DICOM now provides the NDT industry with an imaging protocol communication standard. As an ASTM standard, DICONDE will stand as the imaging communication protocol as the industry continues to drive to make both DICONDE complaint hardware and software.

As we experience increases in digital adoption, the industry is faced with new problems, specifically how to store and manage all this digital data. Digital archiving provides this capability from saving files on local drives to server based long-term storage options. Through archiving, inspection data now becomes available to multiple users with various data sharing capabilities, and opens the opportunity for managing “in-service” assets.

Whether using CR, DR, Visual, or Ultrasonic inspection techniques inspection data management software allows one to share the image and critical information with experts speeding up the evaluation. The storing of this digital data using DICONDE provides data integrity for the lifetime of an asset. It also allows inspection planning to be more pro-active. Reviewing previous inspection data one can determine where the “hot spots” are and compare trends on key components of the asset.