

Ex-Fonterra chief Andrew Ferrier invests in Orion Health

KAREN DEARNE Australian IT December 21, 2011 12:00AM



Orion Health's new board member, Andrew Ferrier (left), with Orion chief executive Ian McCrae Source: Supplied

HIGH-PROFILE New Zealand businessman Andrew Ferrier has joined Kiwi medical software firm Orion Health as an investor with a seat on the board.

Mr Ferrier stepped down as chief executive of the country's multinational dairy co-operative, Fonterra, in September.

He expects to take an active role as a director, and has taken a "significant stake" in the business through his family investment company, Canz Capital.

Orion has emerged as a global health software player, and is playing a key role in Australia's nationwide [personally controlled e-health records rollout](#).

Orion's chief executive Ian McCrae said Mr Ferrier would "bring a wealth of multibillion-dollar organisational experience to the company as we continue the growth trajectory".

Mr Ferrier said Orion Health was "already a New Zealand success story in the local landscape and in the global health technology" sector.

"I like its vision and drive, and hope to contribute my experience in international markets and in building global, performance-driven teams," Mr Ferrier said.

Last month, the privately held company reported a 30 per cent rise in operating revenue for the first six months of the 2012 financial year.

The Australian market accounted for most of that increase on the back of the PCEHR contract win; 48 per cent of revenue came from the Asia-Pacific region.

Mr McCrae said no other single, independent health software vendor could match Orion's international experience with large-scale projects.

"We have 25 regional and national data information exchanges across the globe," he said.

The company is aggressively recruiting, seeking more than 100 software developers, project management and implementation staff both in New Zealand and elsewhere.