

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel

Surgical Services Storage Challenges Solved by Going Vertical

CHALLENGE

For Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel, a 2016 expansion was building on an already phenomenal start. First opened as a 200,000 square foot, three-story facility in the Tampa area in 2012, just four years later it was time to grow. With a burgeoning population and high national rankings for its focus on patient treatment, the facility was in a good place. Part of that new construction included going from five operating rooms to nine. That required an answer to a very important question; namely,

where to add storage for surgical instruments and disposables without having to do a major build-out of the storage footprint?

"One of the biggest problems in any given surgical suite is having enough space for supplies," said Christian Rodgers, the hospital's director of surgical services. *"In any medical facility, that's the most expensive footprint that you can have because it's not actively doing anything; it's just there."*

SOLUTION

After initially deciding on a number of high-density compact shelving units for their relatively small 2,570 square foot second floor storage area in the operating room core, hospital decision-makers began looking at the Rotomat solution, from Hänel. Its carousel-style delivery system was an eminently workable solution, providing more than adequate storage capacity in a smaller footprint, while also offering ergonomic benefits, as well.

"There's no bending, stooping or stretching," said Rodgers. *"Those are the types of things that lead to back injuries, foot injuries (from trays being*

dropped). Having been in leadership for a few years now, looking for ways to prevent workplace injuries is important to me."

Ultimately, the most workable solution for the doglegged space was a combination of high-density compact shelving (for disposables) and three eight-foot-tall Rotomat units aligned together for sterile surgical instruments.



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Christian Rodgers
Director of Surgical Services
Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel

ACHIEVEMENT

"It's really helped them achieve higher levels of efficiency," said Julie Baumgartner, the Patterson Pope sales representative who worked on the project. "Having a system that brings the equipment they need directly to the user is so much simpler than roaming aisle after aisle and maybe climbing ladders to collect the trays they'd need for multiple surgeries."

Rodgers agreed.

"Once we figured out the right parameters in regards to who used the system and determined the best way to maintain our inventory levels, we were really able to get rolling. It's definitely

helped our process," he said. "I can already think of a whole host of places and departments in which we could use them. We're definitely thankful for the units, and for Patterson Pope's help with the process."

Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel knows growth. Of course, it's not the right equipment that keeps patients happy. The right equipment improves processes, which improves employee productivity with fewer issues. Fewer issues mean happier hospital employees. And happier employees lead to better patient outcomes and experiences.

It's a carousel of its own, so to speak.

