

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



U.S. Coast Guard

Service Made Easier and More Efficient with the Right Storage Solution

The U.S. Coast Guard is a unique blend of military, law enforcement and maritime security and stewardship. When one of this service's many outposts needed to accommodate an expanding mission and added personnel, re-imagining the station space was essential. Patterson Pope customized a solution to support this branch's responsibilities.

THE PROBLEM

This second-smallest branch of the U.S. military is organized around six focus areas:

1. Law enforcement
2. First response
3. Safety and marine environmental protection
4. Transportation system management
5. Security operations
6. Defense operations

All those responsibilities mean a lot of gear and training equipment that must be at the ready when needed. Teams are always going in and out to serve,

which makes organization of all that stuff all the more challenging. Especially with severe weather events becoming increasingly common, having gear piled up, pushed up against the wall, or stowed on old shelving units was not ideal.

Another concern? Larger gear didn't fit well in pre-manufactured lockers and other storage components. Securing and safely storing the important equipment personnel needed to protect and serve was not easy.



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Coast Guard station logistics officer.

THE SOLUTION

Looking for ways to wisely spend the operational budget while saving space and improving workflow, the Coast Guard went through the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to find Patterson Pope.

Patterson Pope military storage experts visited the station to scope the space, interview personnel, and find out what problems needed to be solved.

To meet the specific needs of this Coast Guard station, Patterson Pope installed custom solutions throughout the space to reclaim much-needed floor space and increase productivity. High-density mobile shelving units with Spacesaver shelving and Rousseau drawers maximized the footprint for storage. Safety gear is now stored in individual kits, labeled and ready to go.

Rousseau drawers in the workspaces helped define storage for different types of missions. Wire crafter cages also provide more visibility and improve workflow. For Coast Guard personnel, there's also the added benefits of new personal lockers and shower areas with pull-down seats and privacy partitions.

With this customized storage solution in place, benefits for the Coast Guard include:

1. Enhanced the organization of equipment
2. Delineated storage spaces for different teams
3. Improved visibility into assets to deploy quickly
4. Regained footprint in the station
5. Increased morale among employees



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Coast Guard station logistics officer.

THE OUTCOME

Patterson Pope’s solution stores everything in a safe, secure place that sees equipment easily accessible when it’s needed. There is no longer the risk of equipment getting damaged while left out or due to other boats, trucks, or trailers coming through the station. “If we didn’t have the storage solutions we had we couldn’t be neat,” said a station logistics officer. “It would be impossible for us to have everything ready to go.”

In the past, one person might have had their system for organization, but the next person couldn’t find what they wanted. Now, the storage is engineered with everyone’s needs in mind. Large and heavy items like generators and boat parts have their own place in engineering. Meanwhile, uniforms and gear are stored

separately. This helps inventory management and logging of the essential inventory.

“Everyone has benefited from parts and gear storage that is organized and efficient,” says the Coast Guard station’s logistics officer. High-value items such as air-breathing apparatus for dive teams, weather reading devices or radiation trackers can now be easily found and accounted for too.

Patterson Pope took the time to work with all team members, not just the decision-makers, to learn individual storage challenges. It wasn’t a cookie-cutter approach, said the logistics officer. “That’s what made the installation a success – the communication from early on.”



ABOUT THE CLIENT

The U.S. Coast Guard supports a variety of operations including search and rescue, maritime law enforcement and marine environmental protection. It’s personnel also secure ports, waterways and the coasts of the United States.

