Healthcare

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

More Storage in the Same Square Footage

CHALLENGE

AnMed Health, based in Anderson, South Carolina, is the state's largest independent, not-for-profit health system. Its 461-bed acute care hospital, its Northern campus and its distribution center all shared the same storage challenge. All three facilities had extra beds and not enough room to store them. The Medical Center was keeping beds in the patient hallways, the Northern campus had them in a crowded out-of-the-way space, and the distribution center kept 20 beds on a manual racking system where a forklift was needed to load and unload them. The constant tussling was not only dangerous for the operators, but often caused some damage to the beds. In all these spaces, storage was less than ideal.

SOLUTION

Tours of the facilities and insightful talks with staff helped Patterson Pope Sales Representative Michael Garrett better understand AnMed's needs. His experience and newfound education led him to the Vidir Bedlift.

"We didn't know this solution was out there," said Brian Little, AnMed's environmental services project manager. *"We were very pleased to learn about it from Michael. It is a much more efficient concept."*

The Vidir Bedlift allows beds to be stored vertically, as many as five high depending on client needs and height tolerances. Units measure 4'6" wide and 10' deep. Depending on room orientation and need, there are both front- and side-load models available.

"They had some unique requirements," said Garrett. *"In some areas, there was piping overhead that precluded the installation of a five-bed unit. The great thing about the Vidir Bedlift is that you can mix-and-match units to deliver the solution that works best in a given situation. That's exactly what we did for AnMed at its three facilities."*

- At the main hospital, five 3-bed-high side-load units (680 sq. ft.) were installed in the facility's bed shop, increasing bed storage capacity from 7 to 15. The streamlined space also opened up an additional 180 sq. ft. for bed servicing.
- The North Campus facility received three 4-bed-high side-load units and one 3-bed-high side-load unit consuming only 420 sq. ft. This increased bed storage capacity from 10 beds in the area to 18.
- AnMed's distribution center, located across town, received nine 5-bed-high units, allowing for storage of 45 beds in just 492 sq. ft. This was a huge increase over the 20 that had been stored in the area on manual pallet racks.

"Getting away from the forklift was a huge advantage for us. For our staff, the system is really a back saver," added Little. *"It's just a lot more efficient and a lot easier to use. They can stand at the equipment, push a button, and it comes down, they pull the bed out, and then go on to the next one. You're not having to get on and off a forklift. You're not having to manually shift beds off of a forklift. The ease of use is huge for our guys."*

P2 Talks

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P2 Talks Hospital Bed Storage

"Patterson Pope not only showed us what would work, they explained why and how – and then they made the installation easy. More storage in the same square footage! It's been a great transition and we're exceedingly thankful."

Brian Little
Environmental Services Project Manager
AnMed Health

ACHIEVEMENT

"It's saved us a lot of room and a lot of labor costs," said Bobbie Elrod, environmental services operations manager at AnMed's main campus. *"In hospitals, usually Environmental Services ends up in the basement where there's not a lot of storage. It's really helped us tremendously, and I would think it'd be the same for anyone."*

"There's nothing quite so rewarding as seeing that marked difference in a space and its usefulness," said Garrett. *"It was a pleasure working with AnMed and a thrill to be able to deliver such a workable answer for their needs."*

"It was such an easy process," added Little. *"Patterson Pope not only showed us what would work, they explained why and how – and then they made the installation easy. More storage in the same square footage! It's been a great transition and we're exceedingly thankful."*

When "doing good" can help a client and its patients "be well," that's a winning prognosis.