

Storage Overhaul Strengthens Workflow at a Georgia National Guard Maintenance Facility

CHALLENGE

At a National Guard maintenance facility in the Southeast United States, a combination of aging infrastructure and expanding mission requirements had pushed the space well past its limits. The team handled everything from optics repair and equipment calibration to armament maintenance, all within a layout originally built for a much smaller operation.

Over time, the space had grown crowded and difficult to navigate. Storage was pieced together from a mix of old shelving, worn workbenches, and improvised carts that didn't match the pace or precision of the unit's workload. Tools were hard to find. Gear accumulated without clear organization. And work areas weren't configured to support efficient repair cycles.

One maintenance officer described the challenge plainly: "The only place my guys had to work before was this really big table in the center of the room. Now, with these rolling carts and lockable personal drawers, it creates a more efficient work environment. That creates a better sense of ownership and accomplishment."

As equipment requirements grew and inventories expanded, the old setup simply couldn't keep up. The team needed a coordinated, durable system that supported fast-moving maintenance operations, not one that slowed them down.

SOLUTION

To modernize the space, the facility partnered with Patterson Pope to redesign roughly 4,200 square feet across several work zones. The goal was straightforward: improve organization, enhance workflow, and create stations tailored to the real work happening every day.

The resulting setup included:

- » **High-density mobile shelving** to reduce clutter and maximize square footage
- » **Freestyle® lockers** for secure personal gear storage and improved accountability
- » **Racking and modular shelving** for heavy components, parts, and loose equipment
- » **Custom-built carts** designed to safely store cabling, tools, and heavy weapons
- » **Rousseau workbenches with ESD-safe surfaces** to protect sensitive items

Flexibility was key. Patterson Pope collaborated closely with the facility's leadership and end users to make sure each workstation reflected the tasks performed there. That included adjusting bench layouts, refining tool storage locations, and ensuring carts and shelving supported quick transitions between repair jobs.

End users were consulted throughout the design – a step that ensured long-term practicality, not just visual improvement.



ACHIEVEMENT

The renovation transformed the space from a collection of mismatched equipment into a structured, high-functioning maintenance environment.

Daily workflows are smoother. Tools and parts are easier to locate. Repair stations now reflect the real tasks performed by the technicians who use them. And the improved ergonomics and organization strengthened accountability across the facility.

"Honestly? With all this extra storage space, I can really envision us never running out of room," the officer said.

The project also boosted morale and ownership. With individualized workstations and dedicated storage, personnel take greater pride in both their tools and their environment.

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