

Constructive Ideas

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Modular/Flexible/Durable





For the second time in five years, Jackson South Community Hospital Pharmacy Director Paul Eger lead a renovation and expansion of his pharmacy. Paul viewed the move that would triple the space as an opportunity to modernize workflow. “I was charged with designing a system that would look 20 years into the future,” says Paul.

One of his greatest challenges occurred towards the end of the planning process. Consulting closely with pharm designer Greg Daniel, president of Southern Medical Systems, Paul and his staff had developed an innovative process in the unit pick area centered around carousel dispensing technology (CDT). At the last minute, the hospital lost funding for the carousel. Immediate changes to the design were imperative. Due to the modularity of the Hamilton Sorter casework, the team was able to transform the dispensing area from carousel technology into a traditional unit dose fill area. “The tricky part of this was keeping in mind that the hospital would still be purchasing the carousel in the future and they would want to reconfigure the new Hamilton Sorter casework back to the initial design that incorporated this technology,” says Greg. “I knew I had to use all of the components from the carousel layout to configure a traditional pick station. This would keep the initial product cost relatively unchanged, while minimizing the cost for the future conversion. I only had to add a few strategic pieces to the pick station along with some active storage shelving to achieve my goal. This revised drawing gave the client the confidence that we could easily convert the design back to the original plan without having to return to administration for a large dollar purchase of new casework.” Dispatching an average 4,000 dosages per day, the current unit dose fill station permits easy access to over 900 medications.



Having now experienced the new location for about a year, Paul is pleasantly surprised by the impact of enhanced aesthetics in the new pharmacy. Everyone – visitors and staff – comment positively on the beautiful setting. “Many of us spend more time here than at home,” says Paul. “Having a visually-pleasing and effective environment bolsters staff morale and retention. We are committed to improving our productivity, efficiency and patient satisfaction scores at this hospital. When the employees are happy, they provide better services and our patient satisfaction scores rise.”

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3158 Production Drive
Fairfield, Ohio 45014
p 800.503.9966 f 800.503.9963
www.hamiltonsorter.com

