

Starsys bedside carts provide organization at Potomac Hospital



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Potomac Hospital, a 154-bed acute care hospital located in Woodbridge, Virginia, recently added a new addition to replace the hospital's former emergency services area. Nearly 40,000 patients are treated each year in this new ER. In addition to the new construction, **forty-two Starsys™ carts were put to use to address the variety of ER applications including: bedside care, trauma, medication, suture and triage.**

“A primary storage carts requirement was that the carts be constructed of polymer and not metal,” contends Emergency Services Director Barbara E. Neiswander. “We wanted a cart with a warm texture and really liked the Starsys cart's smoothly designed surfaces and neutral color. **We wanted to be confident that the cart's aesthetics would be adaptable to future environments.** Another critical issue was size selection. **The fact that Starsys is available in different heights was a considerable benefit.** Some of the carts require complete security, while others only require a single drawer to be locked while allowing access to the remainder of the cart. The Starsys cart completely addressed these issues with a fully lockable unit and a lockable drawer cover. **The Starsys**

system afforded us the flexibility for single drawer exchanges rather than full cart exchanges. Since most of the supplies are exchanged on a day to day basis, we favored a cart that would allow for the top drawer, which has multiple small items to be exchanged. Also, when selecting the cart, the drop-in liner was another determining factor that set Starsys apart from the competition.”

“Storing all materials in one compact and organized cart is a great advantage,” declares Neiswander. “**We previously used a lot of counter space.** The new ER's design limits the amount of supplies in each room. Everything needed to treat a patient is located within the cart. This decreases pilferage and reduces the number of

items openly exposed to dust and dirt.

Says Emergency Services Technician Dawn Bedicto, “The Starsys carts we use in each room hold many supplies and are all stocked similarly. By creating a uniformly stocked cart in each room, the staff always knows the precise location of supplies.

We have modified the cart and will probably revise it in the future in order to produce a cart that will allow optimum access to the supplies needed to treat a patient. The convenience to quickly reconfigure this cart is an added feature that we will definitely utilize. **This flexibility to change and switch the drawer order was key in allowing us to determine the best and most efficient way to treat patients.”**

Metro Healthcare representative Sue Benning attributes her success with Starsys to the system's adaptable design. “*The interchangeable system of the Starsys components allowed me to offer many characteristics that other manufacturers simply do not possess. Features such as the total flexibility to quickly reconfigure drawers, the ability to remove and exchange drawer liners, the multitude of height options and a larger storage capacity in drawers enabled me to offer a product that is virtually incomparable to any other product on the market.*”

