



CASE STUDY:
NOTRE DAME FOOTBALL
EQUIPMENT ROOM

South Bend, Indiana

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The Gold Standard of Equipment Rooms

The Football equipment room at the University of Notre Dame used to have static, wooden shelving installed in a sparse room with concrete floors.

The aisles between the static shelving units were wide, originally designed to accommodate a skid and a pallet, and took up most of the floor space.

"There was just so much wasted space," said Ryan Grooms, Head Football Equipment Manager for the University of Notre Dame. "It really wasn't functional for us."

Rubbermaid tubs filled with gear and equipment were stacked around the room, and even on the one counter top space.

Grooms was familiar with Spacesaver from his previous position with the University of Minnesota and knew that mobile shelving could potentially double his storage capacity within the same space.





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Not Just for Equipment, But for Recruitment

Today's equipment is better organized and visible, which makes inventory and maintenance easier. The room itself has become a showpiece for the University.

The mobile systems all feature custom graphics that showcase Notre Dame football, from close ups of the team's helmets to an areal shot of the stadium.

The Spacesaver mechanical assist system handles were sent off to the helmet company that provides the team's game day helmets to be dipped

in the same gold paint as the helmets. These custom features create a one-of-a-kind experience for the students, faculty and players.

"We have turned this into a recruiting area," said Grooms, "We are now able to bring recruits in and show off what we did. We really turned this into a show-piece."



Turning a Vision into Reality

"I knew what the capabilities were and what the options could be," said Grooms.

He approached Spacesaver and Bradford Systems, the local Authorized Spacesaver Representative, with a hand sketch of how he wanted the room to look.

Bradford Systems worked with Grooms to provide four mechanical assist mobile systems throughout the existing space. One large system works in tandem with static shelving along the exterior walls to hold everything used during practice or when

players are out on the field on game day. This includes items like shoulder pads, t-shirts, socks, underwear, leg pads, cleats, and running shoes.

Another mobile system is used to store equipment assigned to specific players. In the old room's design, each player was assigned one shelf and now there are six compartments available per player and for the staff to use to store extra items issued to specific players. This extra storage space for the players makes things easier to deal with when equipping players for practice and game day.

"Next year it will be a big time savings," said Grooms.

Folding clothes is one of the responsibilities of the 25 student equipment managers employed by the University. The staff used to bring large tables into the equipment room in order for these workers to fold clothes. Now 15 students can be folding at one time using a third mobile system designed at counter height that doubles as both workspace and storage space.

This unique system features a 36-inch high end panel. The mechanical assist handle was installed as a special by the Bradford Systems team by cutting the required holes for the upper sprocket assembly in the field and adjusting the chain length as needed.

"We wanted to expand, and make this room nice and as functional as possible."

-Ryan Grooms,
Head Football Equipment Manager
University of Notre Dame





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This counter-height system is topped with custom-designed quartz tops that include an inlay of the Notre Dame logo and the words "Irish Football" into the surface material. Under the counter tops, Spacesaver shelving is used for small parts storage and Hamilton Sorter doors and drawers are used to conceal pull-out trash bins.

A fourth mechanical assist mobile system is installed in a separate room and is used

The new Layout allows for Triple the Storage Capacity

entirely for helmet storage. This room is also where student workers store their personal items in Spacesaver Lockers.

The storage capacity of the equipment room was dramatically increased through the installation of the four Spacesaver mobile systems and static shelving.

"Where before we only had four shelves, we now have nine carriages, and we were able to triple our storage space," said Grooms. "I knew that going into the project and that was our goal the whole way."