

Engineering a Medical Supply Solution

Boulder Community Hospital utilizes FrameWRX HD to make sense of their storage



Spacesaver's FrameWRX HD system compresses two rows of storage into one—ensuring accessibility of needed supplies and optimum space usage at the same time.

When you're a nurse in a busy Colorado hospital—especially in a city where rock climbing and hiking are some of the most of the city's most popular recreational activities—you need need to make sure your medical supplies are organized, easy to access, and visible at all times. So, when Boulder Community Hospital planned to reorganize over a dozen of their clean supply rooms to make it easier for nurses to quickly obtain the supplies they needed, they turned to Marshall Davis, Storage and Access Expert at Improve Group, an authorized Spacesaver distributor.

At the time, the hospital was storing supplies in cabinets with bulky drawers. These cabinets could store an immense amount of supplies, but in order to see what was there, nurses had to open up each individual drawer. "They had huge pieces of paper printed out with the locations of everything, and what supplies were in which drawer," Davis says. "Even with those detailed lists, it was difficult to see exactly what was in those cabinets and if they needed to be restocked."

To aid with the hospital's challenges, Davis set up a demo of Spacesaver's FrameWRX HD system at the hospital's campus—and the nurses immediately appreciated how the solution could be configured for their supply needs, increasing their efficiency and, by extension, leaving more time for patient care. And, because the high-density system essentially compressed two rows of storage into one, they were able to get to their supplies and save an aisle of premium storage space at the same time.

However, they did notice a particular challenge with the way the standard system worked—and they wondered if a solution was available. "The system was designed to be tilted for ease of use," Davis says, "and in doing that, they noticed that many of their larger supplies—from drink cups to oxygen tubes to lotion bottles—were leaning forward in the bins and shelves. And, when those taller items came into contact with the moving frame of the system, they would get knocked out of the bins, or the supplies would get torn." The damaged supplies were then thrown away to comply with the hospital's strict sterile environment procedures.



Wire baskets and a color-coded product system help the nurses at Boulder Community Hospital make sure supplies are not only secure, but also easy to see.

Product System	Color
Respiratory	Blue
G.I.	Green
G.U.	Yellow
Lab / IV Supplies	Red
Patient Care / Monitoring	Orange
Dressing / Wound Care	Purple
Misc. Items	White



In short, there was a solution available. With the help of Spacesaver and others at the Improve Group, Davis was able to suggest a small, simple tweak to the system to fit the hospital's needs. The stationary parts of the system were set back approximately 2" to create better clearance between the stationary and moveable frames, resulting in all items — including the tall, bulky supplies — staying put. The reengineered solution led to the hospital installing FrameWRX in thirteen of its clean supply rooms, with a dozen of them being the high-density system.

"Because of the challenge at Boulder Community Hospital, we were able to create a better product for them —and for all of our customers."

- Stephen Anderson, Product Manager, Spacesaver

According to Spacesaver Product Manager Stephen Anderson, the Boulder Community Hospital project served as the impetus for the company relaunching its entire FrameWRX HD line. "The difference of a few inches doesn't sound like much, but in adding a few inches of depth to the system, we were able to alleviate an

issue that was costing nurses and healthcare workers valuable time, while ensuring supplies are visible and kept safe."

For maximum efficiency, the nurses at Boulder Community Hospital are using FrameWRX HD in conjunction with a color-coded supply organization system. The color purple represents all supplies having to do with dressing and wound care; blue is for respiratory supplies, and so on. The system is working great, and the nursing staff is more

organized than ever.

"It sounds strange, but we're thankful that Boulder Community Hospital had this particular challenge," Anderson says. "Because of it, we were able to create an even better product for them — and for all of our customers."

