

Greenhealth

A Practice Greenhealth Member Publication

Comprehensive Directory of
Sustainable Products and Services

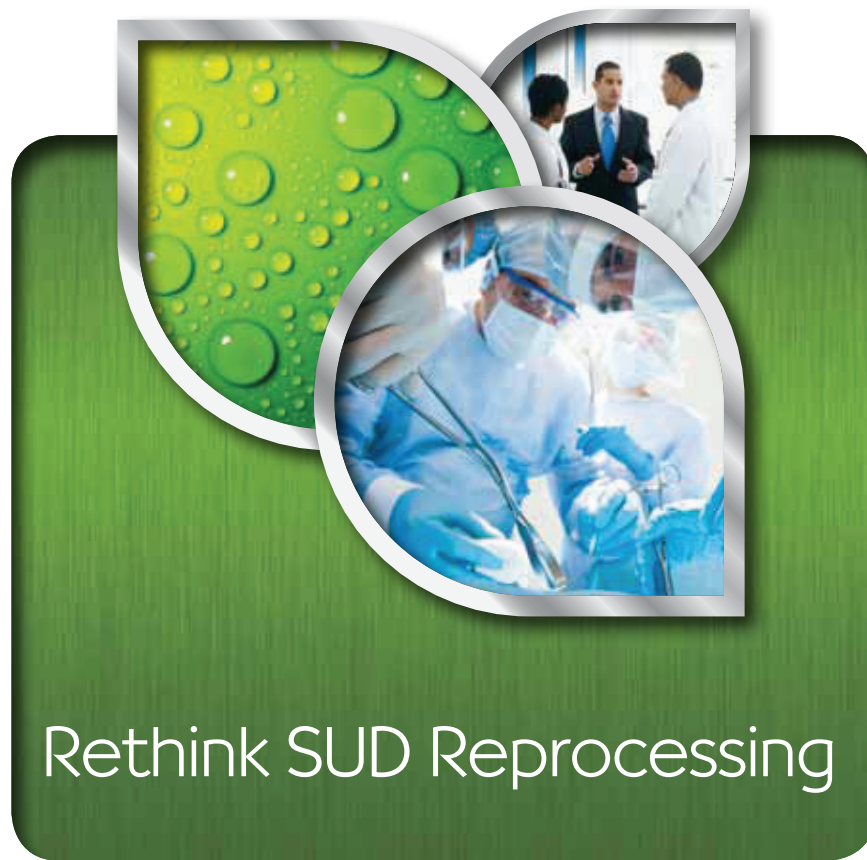
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Practice Greenhealth Products and Services Directory 13

An extensive list of products and services provided by Practice Greenhealth business members.



ON THE COVER

Purchasing products that are more sustainable is a win for both your facility and the planet.



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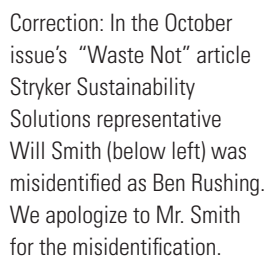
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This special issue of *Greenhealth* is for you!

www.practicegreenhealth.org



BY NANCY E. BERRY

PHOTOS BY KIT HEDMAN

"CAN WE BE ZERO-WASTE SOMEDAY?" grumbles Ben Shalika, 37, a dad on why not. I don't see to be a point where all materials are made from a reusable product." Shalika has been Boulder Community Hospital full-time sustainability coordinator since 2002. In 1999, he began his minutes with the hospital past care, putting in 10 hours a week as the recycling manager. It's Shalika's can-do attitude and walk-wide "the right thing" idea kept him motivated. "When asked if I have a green team, they replied, 'Yes, we have 2,000 employees on one green team.'" He's offering in the next fall of the 250-bed generalist hospital, spend more than \$1 million. Known as the greenest hospital in the country, the GreenSource Award of Merit is the award for the best overall performance.

Known as one of the greenest hospitals in the country, Boulder Community Hospital strives to keep waste out of landfills each day.

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Sustainability in Procurement

LAURA WENGER, RN

Executive Director

lwenger@practicegreenhealth.org




The numbers are staggering: The U.S. health care industry spends more than \$200 billion annually on medical and nonmedical supplies. And many of these products are potentially harmful to patients, staff, and the environment because they may contain or release (during production, use, or disposal) carcinogens, reproductive toxins, or other hazardous materials. The bottom line is—what we buy does matter. Purchasing products and services that have proved to reduce human health and environmental impacts is crucial to creating a more sustainable and healthier hospital. Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) is not only “preventative medicine,” it also has the potential to reduce costs by lowering purchase prices as well as reduce or eliminate waste and its disposal.

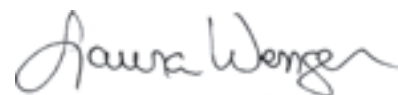
One way Practice Greenhealth fosters change in the purchasing arena is with our EPP Supporter Program, which provides consulting services to the five largest Group Purchasing Organizations (GPOs) in the United States. The program informs GPOs on EPP specifications and environmental attributes to be considered when reviewing contract proposals prior to contracts being awarded. Through the EPP supporter program all five GPOs now have worked collaboratively to standardize environmental disclosure questions for medical products impacting numerous contracts that hospitals access in making their purchases.

This past month, Practice Greenhealth held its first hosted buyer program—called Greenhealth Connections—in San Diego, California. The event was the perfect opportunity for our business members to interact directly with influential supply chain executives from several health systems within our membership. I would like to thank those that attended this new event and extend a special thank you to Brandy Mitchell from Womack Army Medical Center in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and Steve Bergstrom from Intermountain Healthcare in Salt Lake City, Utah, who presented their success stories to participants. In this issue, we'll share Practice Greenhealth's handy business members products and services guide (see page 13) to help you make informed choices when greening your supply chain!

Also in this issue, Beth Eckl, director of environmental purchasing, shares Practice Greenhealth's 10-step guide to Environmentally Preferable Purchasing. She spoke with Kaiser Permanente, University of Maryland Medical Center, and Yale-New Haven Hospital on their successes in greening their supply chains (page 10). Project manager Kaeleigh Sheehan writes about the advantages of reprocessing and OR kit reviews in Greening the OR (page 6). And in our Healthy Foods column, Gretchen Miller and Kathy Pryor from Health Care Without Harm discuss procurement strategies for hospitals and GPOs to obtain locally grown and organic foods.

To further aid you in your sustainable journey, EPP product categories are now included in the Practice Greenhealth Sustainability Dashboard tool for tracking success. If you would like to arrange for a free demo of the Dashboard tool, please contact Peggy Rademaker, prademake@practicegreenhealth.org.

As I wrap up my first year as Executive Director at Practice Greenhealth, it's been exciting to see the number of members who are working so closely with our Facility Engagement team toward their hospital's sustainability goals as well as setting goals for the new year ahead. The 2013 Practice Greenhealth Awards application will be available this December. Please be sure to complete and send us your application so your facility can be recognized for all your green achievements! And thank you for all your efforts throughout this past year to make the health care industry even more sustainable! 



Reprocess and Reuse

Create a more sustainable operating room through procurement.

BY KAELEIGH SHEEHAN
PRACTICE GREENHEALTH
PROJECT MANAGER

Identifying areas of opportunity in the surgical suite to reduce supply chain expenses without affecting quality of care can lead to significant environmental, financial, and health benefits.

THE KEY TO ANY GOOD STRATEGY is to focus on areas where changes can elicit the largest impact. For this reason, the operating room and surgical department are key targets for concerted sustainability efforts. The OR is a major hub within a health care facility, generating as much as 40 percent of patient-related revenue, and a key driver of hospital admissions. On the flip side, the OR is also a significant cost center. It is the leader in medical supply usage for the entire hospital—estimated to account for approximately 33 percent of all hospital supply costs—has large requirements relative to energy use, and is the largest generator of regulated medical waste (RMW) in the hospital.

So where does purchasing fit in? Within the OR, supply costs can comprise more than 50 percent of the departmental budget. A study by Park and Dickerson found that “reducing supply chain costs represents one of the largest cost savings opportunities.” Thus, identifying areas of opportunity in the surgical suite to reduce supply chain expenses without affecting quality of care—such as reducing supply overage by reviewing OR kits and custom packs, opting for reusable and reprocessed items wherever possible, and switching to DEHP-free products—can lead to significant environmental, financial, and health benefits.

Just about everything in the OR is a result of a purchasing decision, so it can seem overwhelming trying to identify a starting point for Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) in the operating room. However, Practice Greenhealth members have identified “low-hanging fruits” that can kickstart the smarter, sustainable purchasing mindset that results in financial savings.

Reviewing OR Kits

“More is better,” “just in case”—these sneaky, often subconscious notions have found their way into well-intentioned purchasing habits, resulting in both inventory overage and the unnecessary disposal of unused, unopened, and/or expired medical devices and products. This can be avoided by reviewing OR kit contents and preference cards regularly to avoid unnecessary up-front supply costs and reduce back-end waste as well.

Making OR kit review an established, annual team activity offers an opportunity for

engagement and teamwork, as well as the chance to assess current practices and determine if there are areas for improvement. Remember to start small, recruit champions, and celebrate any and all successes along the way.

The University of Minnesota Medical Center, Fairview began this process several years ago when surgeon Dr. Rafael Andrade recognized the enormous amount of unused supplies that ended up as trash. Dr. Andrade reviewed the contents of one surgical kit, gathering the weight and cost of each item. By analyzing this data, Dr. Andrade was able to give an example of how much the facility was losing on supply and waste disposal costs by including unnecessary items in their OR kits. With the rest of the surgical team and the sustainability manager on board, they reviewed 39 kits and saw opportunities where they could save.

Mayo Clinic also implemented an OR kit review process that included the surgical staff, inventory team, nurse managers, and vendors to identify clear goals and streamline the process. Since 2009, Mayo Clinic has saved nearly \$125,000 in avoided supply costs and reduced waste.

Reusables vs. Disposables

Reviewing the contents of OR kits isn't the only way to make smarter purchasing choices for surgical services. Determining if the products have the potential to be reused, reprocessed, easily recycled, or made from recycled or refurbished materials can help reduce the environmental impact of the operating room.

Choosing reusable products over single-use or disposable products where possible—while still meeting or exceeding clinical standards—can drive smarter purchasing efforts. There is a growing body of evidence supporting the number of devices and products on the market that are safe for reuse. This list is continually growing and includes such items as:

- Reusable linens and basins
- Reusable laryngeal mask airways (LMAs), endotracheal tubes (ETTs), and anesthesia circuits
- Reusable patient warming devices
- Reusable grounding pads
- Reusable rigid sterilization containers
- Reprocessing medical devices

Reviewing your OR surgical kits is a great way to explore where there are ways to save unused instruments from ending up in landfills.

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A recent review by Dr. Michael Overcash compared reusable vs. disposable linens and found that there are substantial benefits to using reusable linens, including energy, water, carbon footprint, waste, and instrument recovery. The study also noted that when comparing cost, comfort, and barrier protection, reusables had a comparable or superior ranking to disposables. These results highlight the growing amount of support for reusables in regard to sustainability and other benefits.

The University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC) moved to reusable textiles in the OR more than 15 years ago, using a vendor that provides clean, sterilized surgical textiles. In 2010, UMMC avoided the creation of 138,748 pounds of waste as a result of using reusable textiles in the OR, demonstrating an estimated cost savings of \$38,849 in avoided waste disposal costs and an estimated \$39,000 in returned instruments.

Kaiser Permanente's use of reusable surgical gowns and basin sets reduced the organization's regulated medical waste by 30 tons, at a savings of 3.8 percent.

Reprocessing

Reprocessing of medical devices is another growing movement in the health care industry. Not only does using reprocessed "single-use" devices provide a significant opportunity to reduce the volume of regulated medical waste,

but it's also a safe and effective method to reduce the operating room's supply budget and save valuable financial resources. Reprocessing of single-use devices is now common practice in many ORs, with all of *U.S. News & World Report's* "Honor Roll" hospitals choosing to reprocess single-use devices and 82 percent of Practice Greenhealth Award winners in 2011 choosing to reprocess medical devices, for a combined savings of more than \$11.75 million.

Third-party reprocessors collect a set of FDA-approved devices (many labeled "single-use") and clean, test, sterilize, and package them, making them available for resale to hospitals at a significant discount. The FDA stringently regulates third-party reprocessors. Any liability for a faulty reprocessed device is transferred to the third-party reprocessor, and a reporting system captures any adverse events related to reprocessed medical devices. In 2008, the Government Accountability Office released a study demonstrating that the FDA's analysis of reported device-related adverse events indicates that reprocessed single-use devices present no increased risk compared with originally manufactured single-use devices. The report also notes that third-party reprocessors are more stringently regulated by the FDA than the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS).

[Continued on page 8]

OR KIT REVIEW

The OR kit review process might seem obvious to some, but taking a methodical approach and implementing a standard review process is such a valuable opportunity for both environmental and financial sustainability that it has been identified as a "Challenge" opportunity for the Healthier Hospitals Initiative. Like Greening the OR, the Healthier Hospitals Initiative provides free tools and resources to help facilities implement these processes, reduce their environmental footprint, and increase the overall health of their communities.

REPROCESSING

Like OR kit review, reprocessing is also seen as an optimal strategy to reduce the environmental footprint of a facility while also having a positive impact on the bottom line. For this reason, reprocessing is identified as a Smarter Purchasing Challenge in the Healthier Hospitals Initiative. Facilities are encouraged to sign on—whether they already have a successful reprocessing program in place or are just getting started, the resources, tools, and data are available to all.

SAVINGS THROUGH REPROCESSING

Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) reduced costs by \$17.6 million in 2010 and \$21.7 million in 2011 through system-wide single-use device reprocessing. In 2010 and 2011, they also diverted 296 and 364 tons of waste, respectively.

Metro Health Hospital in Wyoming, Michigan, realized cost savings of \$75,978 in 2008, \$84,825 in 2009, and \$75,000 in 2010 due to reprocessing of single-use medical devices.

The University of Washington Medical Center in Seattle, Washington, diverted 5.8 tons of waste and saved the organization \$496,123 by reprocessing in 2008.

Advocate Christ Medical Center was able to save \$400,000 and avoid sending almost five tons of waste to the incinerator or landfills in 2010 through reprocessing.

From an environmental perspective, most single-use devices that are not collected for reprocessing make their way into the RMW stream. Health care organizations pay a premium to dispose of RMW—6 to 10 times the amount it costs to dispose of solid waste. Reprocessing provides a way to divert these devices from the RMW or solid-waste stream and put them back into use. A single hospital can divert more than a ton of devices from the waste stream each year. Additionally, reprocessed devices typically cost between 40 and 60 percent less than the original device, which can mean huge cost savings for the organization.

Reprocessors collect devices in color-coded reusable totes designed specifically for medical

instrumentation and deliver packaged sterile devices back to the hospital in reusable totes, eliminating excess packaging brought in by new devices. Most third-party reproprocessors also track waste diversion and estimate device purchase savings data for their customers.

The Bottom Line


The operating room uses vast amounts of energy and resources, so taking a targeted approach to make this department more efficient and sustainable can see dramatic results for the facility. There are many opportunities to reduce OR waste; for more information and resources, or to join the community and share your own successes, please visit greeningtheor.org. 

PHOTO CONTEST

GREENING THE OR: INNOVATION IN AN IMAGE

**What does Greening the OR mean to you?
Tell your story through a photo.**

Practice Greenhealth is asking for Greening the OR participants and members to submit an image that captures sustainable innovation in the operating room or surgical department. This contest is your opportunity to highlight your creativity and hard work—take a photograph that captures how you reduce costs while also reducing waste, energy, and worker and patient exposure to hazardous chemicals.

1. Promote sustainable innovations and successes in health care and your surgical department through a photograph and 200-word description.
2. Highlight how Practice Greenhealth and the Greening the OR program has helped you achieve your goals.

Have fun, make it interesting, and capture what Greening the OR means to you and your organization.

You may enter more than one image, but each will be judged independently based on content, creativity, and context.

These images may be featured at CleanMed, on the Practice Greenhealth website, and in *Greenhealth Magazine*.

The winning image will receive two free registrations to CleanMed 2014 and one free download of all CleanMed 2013 sessions.

For more information about the contest or to enter, visit www.GreeningtheOR.org

Deadline to submit: Friday, March 20th 2013.

Photos must be high resolution—300 dpi or greater.

*You must have the rights to the photo in order to submit. By submitting you agree that any images submitted may be used by Practice Greenhealth for future publications including but not limited to promotion of educational events, *Greenhealth Magazine*, Practice Greenhealth website, articles, and more.

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Sustainable Supplies

Color your facility green with Practice Greenhealth's 10-step guide to Environmentally Preferable Purchasing.

BY BETH ECKL, DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PURCHASING

PURCHASING SPECIFICATIONS

Review purchasing specifications available from Practice Greenhealth. See practicegreenhealth.org/gsc/specs for specifications and RFI/RFP questions that can help you identify environmentally preferable products from vendors bidding on contracts.

Sample EPP policies are available from Practice Greenhealth: practicegreenhealth.org/topics/environmentally-preferable-purchasing/getting-started

I HEAR OVER AND OVER AGAIN that procuring sustainable products is one of the most challenging tasks for a hospital working toward a greener environment. Several departments may be involved in making even the smallest procurement decisions, a system's facilities have different needs, existing contracts need to be honored with established vendors, and of course, there's the proverbial bottom line to consider.

Although these are challenges, addressing potential environmental problems and costs before product and service providers even come in the door can save money (not to mention headaches) in the long run. Many health care organizations have found that working with suppliers is a crucial factor in achieving environmental goals such as eliminating mercury, introducing safer chemicals, reducing energy use, and properly segregating waste.

You don't need an environmental purchasing program or even an environmental policy to get started with Environmentally Preferable Purchasing. Practice Greenhealth members have found these 10 steps helpful when starting a sustainable procurement journey.

Step 1: Obtain Management Support

While top management support might not be required to implement Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP), an environmental policy can provide an opportunity to identify environmental goals and responsibilities. Other forms of management support, such as integrating sustainability responsibilities into job descriptions, may be necessary before the procurement staff can put any time into implementing EPP. Rachael Baker, environmental supply chain manager at Kaiser Permanente, has established a reporting structure to upper-level procurement management. "Reporting helps sustain support," she notes.

Step 2: Establish an EPP Team

An EPP team brings together hospital professionals from different areas to consider and prioritize the use of products that improve environmental performance and patient and occupational health and safety. This team coordinates its activities with the facility-wide environmental team and the

product review committee(s). The leader of the team should be someone whose administrative responsibilities include ensuring that the EPP project is fully implemented.

Establishing a separate EPP team isn't the only way to go—some hospitals may find that their existing product review committee or system-wide environmental team is the best place to coordinate environmental purchasing initiatives.

Step 3: Establish EPP Program Goals

Set EPP goals with your facility's existing environmental or safety goals in mind. Using purchasing changes to address existing environmental or occupational health issues creates buy-in and practical results. Measurable goals allow you to evaluate what the specific costs, savings, and environmental outcomes of such a change will be. They also help you recognize success when you achieve it!

For example, Baker meets quarterly with suppliers to discuss ways Kaiser Permanente can become more sustainable. "BD discovered we were using a larger syringe than necessary when flushing lines," she explains. "We were able to reduce the size of the syringe and discovered huge cost savings—that switch is inherently more sustainable."

One goal at the University of Maryland Medical Center is to ingrain sustainability into the culture. Denise Choiniere, director of sustainability and facilities services, explains that a NICU nurse came forward and asked why the hospital wasn't using Johnson & Johnson's Naturals baby wash. "We switched to the product shortly after the request was made," notes Choiniere. "It is important to have all levels of staff involved in the process—we have become a model for our other system hospitals to follow."

Cristina DeVito, MS sustainability coordinator at Yale-New Haven Hospital, found a green alternative to Styrofoam, and now the hospital is piloting compostable plates.

Step 4: Designate Responsibility

Designate staff members who will be responsible for achieving EPP goals. Write down who will determine the steps that must be taken to reach that goal, and who will take those steps. Set up a timeline for reporting back to the EPP Team.



With management support, achieving EPP goals can be incorporated into the job descriptions or personal goals of particular staff members.

“I had been struggling with getting DEHP-free bags,” notes Choiniere. “It was not until our Value Analysis Chair instructed that the supply chain team make this a priority that things started to happen. We still do not have them, but it is on the top of the list. When this does change, it will be system wide (11 other hospitals), which is the biggest win.”

“We look at new and existing contracts to see where we can improve our sustainability measures,” adds DeVito. “We look to the vendor to become more responsible for the products and packaging they provide.”

Step 5: Prioritize Next Steps

Contact your Group Purchasing Organization (GPO) to determine how to take advantage of the environmentally preferable products already available through your GPO contracts. Many GPOs provide EPP product lists or contract search capabilities to help you find mercury-free or other products that can contribute to your environmental goals.

Vendors of environmentally preferable alternatives should be able to provide you with information on the products’ specific environmental merits—this information is essential to demonstrate the benefit of your purchasing changes. Your supplier should be able to provide a quarterly or annual report indicating the environmentally preferable products you purchased over that time period.

A next step for Kaiser Permanente was to enter all six Healthier Hospitals Initiative Challenges. “We wanted to focus on a high-impact approach that delivers significant financial savings and

environmental outcomes,” says Baker. “Blue wrap is an old story, but we still struggle with it here at Kaiser,” says Baker. “We are constantly looking at ways to collect the material for recycling.” DeVito went to the facility’s GPO to ask what can they do to become mercury-free. “They are there to help us.”

Step 6: Consider Pilot Projects

In cases where a new product requires a change in work practice, a pilot project can provide the feedback and follow-up needed to ensure a smooth transition to the rest of the facility.

Involve end-users in designing and implementing the project; enlist vendors in providing training, troubleshooting, and other assistance during the pilot; and evaluate these services as part of the pilot. Make sure your pilot has a defined timeframe and a mechanism for collecting feedback from end-users.

DeVito set up a cardboard reduction pilot. “Our GPO helped us reduce the cardboard coming into the hospital through this program,” she notes. “It was very effective. Establishing a partnership with your GPO can really take you to the next level.”

Step 7: Continuous Quality Improvement

To keep on top of both the benefits and the potential downsides of new products as you move into the broader implementation phase, you’ll want to establish assessment mechanisms. Pre- and post-implementation surveys may be helpful. In addition, you’ll want to track acceptance of products; any cost savings related to purchasing, use, or disposal; and environmental benefits related to use of the new products.

Step 8: Expand Your Efforts

Once you’ve achieved your initial goals, consider how you can build on those successes. If you’ve

At the University of Maryland Medical Center sustainability is part of the culture. A NICU nurse asked why the facility was not using Johnson & Johnson Naturals baby wash. The hospital made the switch shortly after the request was made.

gotten a few vendors to provide you with environmental benefits reporting, consider how to expand that program to include additional suppliers. If water use has been reduced through the installation of water-saving showerheads, consider how the savings can be used to fund the purchase of additional water-saving fixtures such as toilets.

Step 9: Communicate and Celebrate Success

Make sure facility staff, patients, and administrators know about the success of your efforts! Place general articles on the benefits of EPP in employee newsletters, intranet, and email communications. Highlight successful pilot or implementation efforts, naming staff who participated and quantifying the environmental benefits of the changes.

Work with your public affairs department to inform local media about your efforts and successes. Environmental improvements, particularly those that improve indoor air quality, minimize the use of toxic chemicals, and reduce energy and water consumption, are clearly part of the story of how your hospital cares for your patients, staff, and community. “Procurement is a slow process, and EPP is harder than anyone realizes because there are so many players,” notes Choiniere. “If you can continue to get the word out on your successes, all the better.” DeVito, who sends announcements on sustainable activities to staff via newsletters, agrees.

Step 10: Apply for a Practice Greenhealth Award

Don’t forget to apply for the Environmental Excellence Awards! Practice Greenhealth members can apply annually for the Practice Greenhealth Environmental Excellence Awards at practicegreenhealth.org/awards. If your project focuses on energy or water conservation, you may qualify for the EPA’s EnergyStar award (energystar.gov) or Water Efficiency Leader Awards (epa.gov/water/wel). Awards can increase your profile in the community, increase the pride of all staff in the facility, and get your work noticed by top management. 🌱

This article is based on the “10 Step Guide to Environmental Purchasing.” Practice Greenhealth thanks its EPP Supporters for their contributions.

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CIDEX® OPA Ortho-Phthalaldehyde Solution

High-level disinfectant used for cleaning most endoscopes currently in use. It is designed for either manual or automatic reprocessing, manufactured to the highest standards for purity, and effective against a wide array of microorganisms.

Environmental Benefits: It does not require special ventilation, has a near-neutral pH compatible with endoscopic instruments, has a paperless version of the IFU online, and contains 20% more solution in each bottle.

STERRAD® Sterilization Systems

949-789-8526

www.aspij.com/us/home

STERRAD® Sterilization Systems uses hydrogen peroxide gas plasma technology to efficiently eliminate traces of hydrogen peroxide from devices safely and effectively, protecting the instruments, users, patients, and environment in your health care facility.

Environmental Benefits: ASPs' STERRAD® Systems uses a combination of hydrogen peroxide vapor and low-temperature gas plasma to rapidly sterilize medical instruments, eliminating aeration and external venting.

Alpar Architectural Products, LLC

877-721-0156

www.alpararch.com

Wall and corner guards

Alpar Architectural manufactures wall and corner guards and sheet wall protection from a variety of environmentally friendly materials including deTerra® bio-based polymer. DeTerra bio-based polymer is the construction industry's only fire-rated bio-based polymer. More than 90% bio-based and rapidly renewable, it exceeds fire test performance of PVC, ABS, and PETG, and meets or exceeds mechanical performance tests relevant to wall protection. We also offer a range of stainless steel and wood profiles.

Environmental Benefits: PVC-free, petroleum-free, PBT-free. Made from bio-based, rapidly renewable materials. Harvested and produced in the U.S.

Amerinet**www.amerinet-gpo.com****Amerinet**

As a leading national health care solutions organization, Amerinet collaborates with acute and non-acute care providers to create and deliver unique solutions through performance improvement resources, guidance, and ongoing support. With better product standardization and utilization; new financial tools beyond contracting and alliances that help lower costs; raise revenue; and champion quality, Amerinet enriches health care delivery for its members and the communities they serve. To learn more about how Amerinet can help you successfully navigate the future of health care reform, visit www.amerinet-gpo.com.

ARC Medical, Inc.**404-373-8311****www.arcmedical.com****circuitGuard™**

FDA-cleared as a hygienic alternative to decontamination of anesthesia equipment, circuitGuard™ filter's exclusive Unitized Construction protects anesthesia circuits and equipment (ET, CO₂, etc.) from contamination, and protects patients from contaminated circuits and equipment. Used by hundreds of facilities nationwide. Save time, money, space. Outpatient surgery—top ten ways to reduce costs.

Environmental Benefits: By protecting the anesthesia circuit and equipment from contamination, the user can choose to use one anesthesia breathing circuit and change the circuitGuard™ and mask per patient.

GPOs/Distributors: Direct from ARC Medical, Inc., Medline, MedAssets.

ThermoFlo™**404-373-8311****www.arcmedical.com**

THERAPEUTIC HUMIDIFICATION: ThermoFlo™ provides passive humidification as effective as heated water bath humidifiers. Allows circuits to be changed monthly.

Environmental Benefits: ThermoFlo™ replaces sterile water used for inhalation. These heavy items are shipped via truck across the USA. ThermoFlo™ allows for circuits to be used for one month.

GPOs/Distributors: Direct to customer, MedAssets, SCA, ASCOA, Symbion, Veterans Administration, GSA.

Augustine Temperature Management**888-439-2767****www.hotdog-usa.com****HotDog Patient Warming System**

HotDog patient warming consists of air-free conductive fabric blankets and mattresses for maintaining patient normothermia during surgery. The reusable HotDog system meets SCIP/PQRS active warming standards while improving patient care. Compared to forced-air warming it's been shown to be safer for orthopedics, more effective, and less expensive. In addition, HotDog is the more environmentally sustainable solution because it eliminates disposable waste and consumes 80% less energy than forced-air.

Environmental Benefits: A small-to-mid-sized hospital with 10 warming units could have annual savings of 6,544 lbs. of disposable waste, 5,680 lbs. of carbon dioxide emissions, and \$2,013.34 in disposal and energy costs.

GPOs/Distributors: Premier, Healthtrust Purchasing Group, Novation, MAGNET, FSS/GSA.

B.W. Recycling, Inc.**877-217-7020****www.bwrecycling.com****Computer Recycling****www.webuyics.com**

We provide computer recycling services. We pick up anywhere in the U.S. in large quantities. We buy scrap medical electronics.

X-Ray film recycling in Sacramento, CA**877-217-7020****www.xrayfilmsrecycling.com/disposal/CA-Sacramento.htm**

We provide x-ray film recycling services in Sacramento, free pickup in Sacramento, and anywhere in California.

X-Ray recycling services

Recycling all types of x-rays.

Alabama x-ray recycling**205-533-6156****www.xrayfilmsrecycling.com/pick-up-rates/alabama.htm**

We pick-up x-ray films for recycling anywhere in Alabama. Pick-up is free and we pay for the silver we recover from the x-ray film. We have a drop-off location in Huntsville, AL.

Beacon Converters, Inc.**201-797-2600****www.beaconconverters.com****Customizable and Fully Recyclable Die Cut Insert Cards Organize and Secure Components in Procedural Kits**

Recyclable die cut insert cards formed from 100% virgin HDPE are a fully customizable and cost-effective packaging alternative to a ridged tray. Beacon's procedural die cut wallet individually organizes and secures sharp heavy surgical components within a flexible pouch. This minimizes the packaging footprint while protecting the tools from abrading each other or the sterile barrier. Die cut cards can be embossed with a resin code indicating its recyclability, eliminating ink or label.

Environmental Benefits: Material 100% virgin HDPE. Fully customizable around device. Flexible packaging can reduce packaging mass/volume.

Boulder Associates Architects**303-499-7795****www.boulderassociates.com****Planning, Architecture, Interior Design, Graphic Design, and Construction Administration Services**

Boulder Associates provides comprehensive planning, architecture, interior design, graphic design, and construction administration for clients engaged in the development of health care and senior living projects. Headquartered in Boulder, Colorado, with three offices in California and one in Dallas, Boulder Associates has unique insight into the core issues that concern health care and senior living clients and the ability to address the intricacies of people, process, technology, and economics.

Environmental Benefits: Our balanced approach to sustainable design produces the business results that concern our clients—reduced operating costs, enhanced public image, improved workplace performance, and a superior quality of life.

Centocor Ortho Biotech, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)**215-206-8269****www.simponi.com****SIMPONI® (golimumab)**

SIMPONI®(golimumab) is a human monoclonal antibody that acts as a TNF (Tumor Necrosis Factor) blocker. Simponi in the U.S. market is delivered in one of two options—the option being applied for is the 50 mg/0.5 mL in a single-dose prefilled SmartJect autoinjector. Dosing for Simponi is monthly or 12 injections per year.

Environmental Benefits: SIMPONI® is manufactured in plants using up to 50% renewable energy, uses the reusable GREENBOX™, and uses 90% less material and packaging per patient than competitors.



Cilag Pharmaceuticals (Johnson & Johnson)

Ceftobiprole Medocaril

Ceftobiprole medocaril is indicated for the treatment of serious bacterial infections of hospitalized patients. It is the only cephalosporin-class antibiotic whose broad-spectrum coverage includes Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA).

Environmental Benefits: The drug is created using a process that incinerates 20kg less waste per PWS, avoids Cyclohexane use, and increases production yield 5% and volume yield 30%.

Compression Therapy Concepts

732-544-0800

www.ctcdvt.com

VasoPress

VasoPress is for the prevention of DVT.

Environmental Benefits: Product may be reprocessed and is made from the most environmentally beneficial materials and manufactured in the most efficient way. DEHP-Free product.

GPOs/Distributors: Novation, Premier, MedAssets, VA, Cardinal, O&M, Seneca, Medline, PSS, PHS.

Construction Specialties, Inc.

800-233-8493

www.c-sgroup.com/acrovyn/wall-protection

C/S Acrovyn

C/S Acrovyn is a complete system of interior wall protection designed to help reduce routine maintenance costs while keeping interior surfaces looking like new.

All Acrovyn handrails, wall guards, wall coverings, and wall panels are available in a variety of material options including PBT-free thermoplastic, real metal, bamboo, and FSC certified wood. Acrovyn's patented Quick-Lock handrail system can even cut initial installation time in half and allow for minimum facility interruption with off-site rail assembly.

Environmental Benefits: Acrovyn contains no PVC or BPA, is cradle to cradle certified and meets CA 01350 protocol for good indoor air quality. Our metal components contain pre- and post-consumer recycled content.

C/S Acrovyn Doors

800-972-7214

www.c-sgroup.com/acrovyn-doors

Acrovyn Doors face and edge are a PBT-free thermoplastic that contains no PVC nor BPA, is cradle to cradle certified and meets the CA 01350 protocol for good indoor air quality. Acrovyn is bacterial and fungal resistant and resists chipping and gouging that may allow harmful bacteria to reside. If the door edges are ever damaged, C/S's patented system allows the edge to be replaced to eliminate costly door replacement and time-consuming field repair.

Environmental Benefits: The Acrovyn Door system does not include any added urea formaldehyde, and all doors utilizing particle board and agrifiber comply with California Air Resource Board (CARB) Phase I Emission Standard.

Construction Specialties, Inc. cont'd

C/S Cubicle Curtains

800-222-0201

www.c-sgroup.com/cubicle-track-curtains

C/S General Cubicle's Snap Lock Curtain System eliminates the hassles and dangers of removing cubicle curtains from ceiling mounted track systems. Instead of using a ladder to remove privacy curtains, Snap Lock allows staff to separate the fabric portion of the curtain from the mesh while standing safely on the ground. Soiled curtains are laundered and easily snapped back into place allowing for very little interruption in areas requiring privacy curtains.

Environmental Benefits: General Cubicle offers hundreds of fabric options including antimicrobial fabrics, fabrics that are cradle to cradle certified and PVC-free shower curtains.

C/S Pedisystems

800-233-8493

www.c-sgroup.com/entrance-flooring

C/S Pedisystems' architectural mats and grids are designed to stop dirt, snow and water at the door, thereby reducing maintenance costs, prolonging the life of your floors, and contributing to healthy indoor air quality. C/S sources materials with the highest possible recycled content for all Pedisystems products. You can also feel good knowing that most Pedisystems meet CA 01350 test standards for good indoor air quality, an approved equivalent to CRI's Green Label Plus certification.

Environmental Benefits: Pedisystems contribute to LEED points like IEQ Credit 5 (urging permanent grilles at high traffic entryways) and are designed and manufactured responsibly. Many options are cradle to cradle certified.

C/S Sun Controls

800-631-7379

www.c-sgroup.com/sun-controls

C/S has created sunshading solutions for commercial construction projects worldwide. We have helped architects and designers create the buildings of their dreams through our custom design solutions. A C/S engineered shading system is a striking architectural element that plays double duty as one of the most effective ways to make a building more sustainable. All C/S Sunshades significantly reduce solar heat gain and glare in interior spaces. Several C/S sunshades are cradle to cradle certified.

Environmental Benefits: Incorporating properly designed shading elements into a building's design can lead to lower initial lighting and HVAC costs as well as long-term reductions in operational costs.

Dirtworks Landscape Architecture, PC

212-529-2263

www.dirtworks.us

Landscape architecture services, landscape design and site planning, master planning for health care institutions, healing/restorative/therapeutic gardens, and interior courtyards and atriums

Dirtworks, PC, founded in 1995, is an internationally recognized and award-winning landscape architecture firm. Its designs enhance the restorative quality of the natural environment. The firm provides clients with the creativity and technical knowledge essential to project design and site planning. Dirtworks' philosophy is that interacting with nature is essential to well-being and that providing a closer connection to nature enhances the built environment. These principles are applied to health care, institutional, public, and educational projects.

Environmental Benefits: Environmentally trained staff. Collaboration with local and regional suppliers to minimize transport of goods. Working with environmentally certified suppliers and partners.

Dornoch Medical Systems, Inc.

816-595-4406

www.dornoch.com

Transposal System

Dornoch is green from the top down. Dornoch's Transposal System is an integrated infectious fluid collection and disposal system with OR and facility-wide applications. Three system configurations are available: Fluid Carts, Reusable/Recyclable Canisters, and a combination of Fluid Carts and Reusable/Recyclable Canisters. All systems eliminate 100% of traditional red bag suction canister waste.

Environmental Benefits: Reduces red bag waste by up to 70% in the OR. Installed systems eliminate nearly 8,000,000 pounds of red bag waste from the U.S. health care waste stream annually.

GPOs/Distributors: Novation, HPG, MedAssets, Amerinet, Magnet, Premier.

Eastman Chemical Company

800-Eastman

www.eastman.com

Eastman 168™ non-phthalate plasticizer

For more than 30 years, Eastman Chemical Company has been supplying Eastman 168™ non-phthalate plasticizer to companies worldwide as a replacement for other general purpose plasticizers like DEHP and DINP.

Eastman 168™ has a comprehensive and clean toxicological profile that demonstrates its suitability for most consumer products, including sensitive applications such as toys, childcare articles, food contact materials, and medical devices.

Environmental Benefits: Recognized as a phthalate alternative. Warning-free labeling. Comprehensive and clean toxicology profile.

Eastman Chemical Company cont'd

Eastman Tritan™ Copolyester MX811

Eastman Tritan™ copolyester MX811 is an amorphous product with excellent appearance and clarity. It offers many outstanding features that include excellent toughness, hydrolytic stability, heat resistance, and chemical resistance. It has been tested for FDA/ISO 10993 and USP Class VI Biological Evaluation testing after Gamma and ETO sterilization.

Environmental Benefits:

- Bisphenol A (BPA) free.
- Improved durability for harsh environments.
- Longer life resulting in less waste.

Eastar™ Copolyester 6763

Eastar™ copolyester 6763 is a clear amorphous material that offers clarity, toughness and good melt strength at processing temperatures. It has been tested for FDA/ISO 10993 and USP Class VI Biological Evaluation testing after Gamma and ETO sterilization. Eastar offers ease of thermoforming for complex design and shapes for rigid medical packaging applications.

Environmental Benefits:

- Bisphenol A (BPA) free.
- Ease of recycle.
- Longer life resulting in less waste.

Ecdel™ Elastomers

Ecdel™ elastomers are medical grade copolyester ethers (COPE). They offer the clarity, toughness, and chemical resistance needed in a variety of flexible medical packaging applications. Ecdel elastomers may be extrusion blow molded directly into bags or extruded into film for later fabrication into bags. This material has been cradle to cradle certified.

Environmental Benefits:

- Bisphenol A (BPA) free.
- Free of ortho-phthalate plasticizers.
- Longer product life.

Eastman Tritan™ Copolyester MP100

Eastman Tritan™ Copolyester MP100 is an amorphous material that combines excellent clarity and toughness with outstanding heat and chemical resistance. Film and sheet manufactured from this material can be thermoformed with a wide processing window that allows for product designs that reflect intricate detail. It is suitable for use with most forms of sterilization including radiation and ethylene oxide. Tritan MP100 has been formulated for use in medical film, sheet, and packaging applications.

Environmental Benefits:

- Bisphenol A (BPA) free.
- Ease of recycle.
- Longer life resulting in less waste.

Eastman Chemical Company cont'd

Eastman Tritan™ Copolyester MX711

Eastman Tritan™ copolyester MX711 offers many outstanding features that include excellent toughness, clarity, hydrolytic stability, heat resistance, and chemical resistance. It has been tested for FDA/ISO 10993 and USP Class VI Biological Evaluation testing after Gamma and ETO sterilization.

Environmental Benefits:

- Bisphenol A (BPA) free.
- Improved durability for harsh environments.
- Longer product life resulting in less waste.

Eastman Tritan™ Copolyester MX731

Eastman Tritan™ copolyester MX731 is an amorphous product with excellent appearance and clarity. This product is a high flow medical grade. It offers many outstanding features that include excellent toughness, hydrolytic stability, heat resistance, and chemical resistance. It has been tested for FDA/ISO 10993 and USP Class VI Biological Evaluation testing after Gamma and ETO sterilization.

Environmental Benefits:

- Bisphenol A (BPA) free.
- Improved durability for harsh environments.
- Longer life resulting in less waste.

EmCo Consulting, Inc.

866-457-0330

www.emcoco.com

Waste management, recycling solutions, expense reduction

EmCo is an independent waste, recycling, and confidential document destruction consulting firm. EmCo specializes in reducing expenses for the unique waste streams of the health care industry. With professional services provided nationwide, EmCo has proven itself as an industry leader by implementing innovative recycling solutions thereby generating additional revenue streams for its clients. EmCo provides centralized, single-source waste management and recycling solutions which significantly reduce costs and balance environmental responsibility with corporate profitability.

Environmental Benefits: Increase recycling rates and rebates. New equipment acquisition assistance. Monthly volume, savings, and waste diversion reports.

ERDMAN

608-410-8148

www.ERDMAN.com

Healthcare real estate solutions

At ERDMAN, we care passionately about our clients and are solely committed to the health care industry. We collaborate with health care leaders and organizations to create inspired, efficient, and patient-centric environments that advance the quality of care. The unique complexities of

ERDMAN cont'd

the rapidly shifting health care landscape require complete focus and specialized experience. That is why 100% of our work has been dedicated to the realization of our client's unique goals and the advancement of health care for more than 60 years.

Environmental Benefits: Through our unique process of helping identify the post occupancy outcomes our clients desire, we have consistently helped our health care partners achieve their desired business goals of innovative spaces, operational efficiency, reduced costs, reduced waste increased revenue, and improved patient and staff satisfaction.

Ethicon Endo Surgery, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

855-273-2549

www.realize.com

REALIZE™ Adjustable Gastric Band-C

The launch of the REALIZE™ Adjustable Gastric Band-C in the U.S. has provided an opportunity for EES to launch electronic instructions for use (e-IFUs) on an EES product. This has been implemented for the REALIZE Adjustable Gastric Bands and REALIZE Injection Port and Applier IFUs by hosting these documents on www.e-ifu.com.

Environmental Benefits: Paper use was reduced by 10,000 lbs., paper-based packaging contains >30% PCR content or certified sustainable forest content, and EED received the PGH 2010 Champion for Change Award.

GT Environmental, Inc.

614-794-3570 Ext. 16

www.gtenvironmental.com

Environmental Consulting Services

Environmental consulting services for solid waste management, waste assessments, recycling programs, waste reduction programs, waste tracking software, OSHA safety programs, strategic planning, air permitting, air emissions evaluation, water permitting, hazardous waste and materials management, site assessments and brownfield redevelopment and remediation.

Environmental Benefits: GT's consulting services focus on achieving results in assisting clients with the development of waste reduction programs that lead to efficiencies and cost savings. GT professionals assist clients with the evaluation of product usage to reduce emissions and to seek product alternatives with less impact to the environment.

HDR Architecture, Inc.

402-399-1000

www.hdrinc.com

Architecture, engineering, consulting, construction, and related services

HDR is a design- and research-driven practice committed to helping clients develop strategies for operations and environments that support health care delivery and science discovery. Our architects, engineers, and designers create the world's most technologically advanced facilities in the rapidly converging fields of health care, life sciences, and physical sciences. We are committed to using our talent and know-how to change the world for the better, and are a proud endorser of the Architecture 2030 Challenge.

Environmental Benefits: HDR constantly challenges conventional thinking, offering our clients the best possible economic, social, and environmental value by delivering integrated solutions, both in the projects we deliver and in the way we conduct business.

HealthTrust

615-344-3000

www.healthtrustcorp.com

HealthTrust Purchasing Group

HealthTrust recognizes the importance of providing its members with environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP) solutions. We strive to contract for products and services that are better for public health and the environment and are guided by our Member Advisory Boards in support of a responsible and sustainable charter. Through EnergyTrust, members save millions of dollars through leveraged buying of deregulated natural gas and electricity, reducing their impact on natural resources and supporting their commitment to sustainability.

Environmental Benefits: HealthTrust is an active member of the Practice Greenhealth GPO work group that is developing standardized processes for the gathering of EPP information in the product and services sourcing process.

HHA Services

800-442-1140

www.hhhaservices.com

Contract Management Services or Food & Facilities Management Services

HHA Services is a leading provider of support service management. HHA is CIMS & CIMS-GB certified w/honors, delivering effective solutions for food, environmental services, plant operation/maintenance, patient transportation, and laundry departments to hospitals, health care systems, and LTC facilities. HHA provides measurable results, improved HCAHPS scores, HAI prevention, increased satisfaction, and reduced operating expenses, and recognized as one of the Top 100 Best Places to Work in Healthcare by *Modern Healthcare* magazine in 2010 and 2011.



HHA Services cont'd

Environmental Benefits: EVS green cleaning products and equipment: positive, healthy indoor environment initiatives program. Recycling & disposable products: environmentally-friendly substitutions reducing waste, costs. Leadership in energy & environmental design and construction: sustainable, energy efficient, indoor environment quality

GPOs/Distributors: Premier and MedAssets.

Janssen Division of Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

321-460-7718

www.janssenpharmaceuticalsinc.com

Cephalosporin antibiotics

Cephalosporin antibiotics are often used to treat common bacterial infections and commonly used for surgical prophylaxis.

Environmental Benefits: The synthesis steps were reduced 50%, yield nearly tripled, and hazardous solvents were reduced 80%.

STELARA® (ustkinumab)

STELARA®(ustkinumab) is used to treat severe psoriasis.

Environmental Benefits: Because STELARA® requires only four subcutaneous injections annually, it uses 90% less material and 90% less packaging per patient than competitors. It is manufactured using up to 50% renewable energy.

Itraconazole

Itraconazole is used for the treatment of fungal infections in both HIV- and non-HIV-infected individuals. It is active against fungal infections such as aspergillosis, blastomycosis, histoplasmosis, and candidiasis, as well as fungal infection localized to the toenails and fingernails (onychomycosis). Itraconazole is also used for treating patients with fever and low white blood cell counts who are likely to develop a fungal infection.

Environmental Benefits: An improved production process eliminated use of 400,000 gal. solvents, 920,000L liquid waste, and 23,000 kg solid waste. No dichloromethane and less butane are now sent to the volatile organic compound unit.

Johnson & Johnson Consumer Product Companies, Inc.

908-874-2079

www.jnj.com/connect/healthcare-products/consumer

O.B.® Tampons

O.B.® tampons are the applicator-free tampon that offers personal fit protection.

Environmental Benefits: They have zero slack fill packaging, use 100% PCR fibers, and are made from 90% renewable sources. The applicator-free design allows for less packaging and material use than competitors.

JOHNSON'S® NATURAL® Shampoo & Foaming Body Wash

www.johnsonsbaby.com/naturals

JOHNSON'S® NATURAL® products are the only true natural product (95% plus naturally derived formulation) formulations designed to meet our BEST FOR BABY™ standards for safety and mildness. They are distributed widely at an affordable price point. The product enables moms who want to make more natural choices in baby care to use a product they can trust and afford.

Environmental Benefits: 98% ingredients derived from plant sources. Contains first 100% naturally derived fragrance. Packaging 60% post-consumer recycled content.

AVEENO® Soothing Bath Treatment

www.aveeno.com

For itchy, irritated skin, it is made of 100% pure natural colloidal oatmeal—an ingredient long recognized for its ability to relieve itching—that AVEENO® mills into an ultra-fine powder. When dispersed in water, this powder forms a soothing milky bath that works as a natural cleanser to provide temporary skin protection and relieves irritation and itching due to poison ivy/oak/sumac, rashes, insect bites, and eczema. It also soothes prickly heat, chicken pox, hives, or sunburn.

Environmental Benefits: It was awarded the Green Good Housekeeping Seal by the Good Housekeeping Research Institute. AVEENO® partnered with TerraCycle to upcycle used tubes into new products available at major U.S. retailers.

AVEENO® POSITIVELY AGELESS

www.aveeno.com

The AVEENO® POSITIVELY AGELESS includes facial moisturizers, firming body lotion, and cleansers. These exclusive anti-aging formulas, made with Natural Shitake Complex, blend the best of nature with the proof of science, giving consumers visibly younger-looking skin.

Environmental Benefits: AVEENO® HDPE bottles and paper packaging are recyclable and 100% PVC-free. Cartons are 100% recycled with 35% post-consumer recycled materials, and sleeves are made from 100% recycled polyethylene terephthalate.

Kessler Consulting, Inc.**813-971-8333****Solid waste planning and business management consulting services**

Kessler Consulting, Inc. (KCI), is committed to providing the highest-quality, value-added solid waste planning and business management consulting services to the health care community. KCI can help you develop and implement a waste reduction and management program as part of your operations through services that include:

- Education toolkits for various departments/staff.
- Waste assessments for your buildings or departments (OR and ER).
- Collection contract assessments and cost-saving reductions.
- Materials and resource management.
- Greening the OR.

Environmental Benefits: By working closely with clients and applying our expertise, KCI helps organizations achieve their sustainability and waste reduction goals, reduce costs and expenses, and enhance productivity.

Kimberly-Clark**800-542-3577****www.kimberly-clark.com****KC500 PURPLE NITRILE® Exam Gloves****www.kchealthcare.com**

KIMBERLY-CLARK® Medical Exam Gloves help safeguard health care employees from exposure to bloodborne pathogens and other infectious materials, whatever the task or procedure. From proprietary nitrile formulations to economical vinyl, there's a KIMBERLY-CLARK® Medical Exam Glove that's right for every clinical task. Ideal for moderate to high-risk settings. Provide barrier protection against permeation of 27 chemotherapy drugs. KIMBERLY-CLARK® maximum coverage and protection.

Environmental Benefits: Natural rubber, latex-free.

BLUE RENEW® Sterilization Wrap Recycling Program**www.kchealthcare.com/bluerenew**

Kimberly-Clark has developed a step-by-step program to assist your facility in successfully recycling KIMGUARD® Wrap. We call it BLUE RENEW®. Medical facilities across the U.S. are now recycling their used, clean KIMGUARD Wrap, made from recyclable #5 polypropylene fabric. And there are recycling partners in your area who can help you do it, too. Learn more about how you can BLUE RENEW by contacting your Kimberly-Clark representative today.

Environmental Benefits: Reduces landfill waste. Expandable recycling infrastructure. Measurable reporting.

**Kimberly-Clark cont'd****MICROCOOL® Surgical Gowns****www.microcoolgowns.com**

The OR can be a very hazardous environment where clinicians routinely risk exposure to blood, fluids, and pathogens. MICROCOOL® Gowns meet the AAMI Level 4 liquid barrier standard. MicroCool Gowns deliver a perfect balance of essential properties:

- Fluid resistance.
- Microbial resistance.
- Flame resistance.
- Lint and abrasion resistance.

Environmental Benefits: 100% landfill-free fabric manufacturing; cleanly incinerated; over 90% #5 polypropylene; PFOA-free.

KIMGUARD ONE-STEP® QUICK CHECK® Sterilization Wrap**www.kchealthcare.com**

Confidence you can see. Quicker than ever. KIMGUARD ONE-STEP® QUICK CHECK® Sterilization Wrap is the fast, easy way to ensure that instrument sterility is uncompromised. It's easy to see what sets QUICK CHECK apart. With two colors—white and blue—bonded together, inspecting trays is easier and faster than ever! And, over 70% of operating room and central services users told us that QUICK CHECK Wrap gave them more confidence in their instrument inspections.

Environmental Benefits: Recyclable; see BLUE RENEW®. 100% landfill-free manufacturing. Made in the U.S.

KC100 LAVENDER® Nitrile Exam Gloves**www.loveyourgloves.com/lavender**

SmartPULL® Dispenser Box—The first, smaller opening is used when the box is full and helps control waste. When the box is half empty, the second, larger opening allows for easier access to the gloves. Thinner, lighter, and more economical than standard nitrile—the ideal replacement for vinyl exam gloves. KC100 LAVENDER® Nitrile Gloves over two leading “stretch” vinyl gloves. Superior tactile sensitivity and comfort.

Environmental Benefits: Natural rubber, latex-free; 250 count box: 60% less storage, 50% waste reduction over 100 ct.

KC300 STERLING® Nitrile Exam Gloves**www.kchealthcare.com**

SmartPULL® Dispenser Box—The first, smaller opening is used when the box is full and helps control waste. When the box is half empty, the second, larger opening allows for easier access to the gloves. Latex-free exam glove with the protection of nitrile and the sensitivity of latex. The worry-free choice designed for virtually every use, throughout your facility.

Environmental Benefits: Natural rubber, latex-free; 200 count box; 40% waste reduction.

Kimberly-Clark cont'd**KIMBERLY-CLARK® Facial Protection****www.kchealthcare.com**

KIMBERLY-CLARK® Facial Protection offers a broad range of styles, features, and levels of protection. From standard and fluid-resistant masks, to particulate filter respirators, eyewear, and face shields, KIMBERLY-CLARK® Facial Protection products make for excellent choices where comfort and protection are needed in a variety of tasks and procedures.

Environmental Benefits: Product is natural rubber, latex-free. Our cases use above average recycled content (50–60%). All packaging materials are readily recyclable. Virgin pulp used is Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC)-certified.

Lac-Mac Limited**888-452-2622 ext 2227****www.lac-mac.com****Surgical Drapes**

Lac-Mac reusable high-performance, liquid-proof Surgical Drapes are validated to 80 WDA. Our drapes and wrappers are manufactured to meet Level 4 level of protection in accordance with AAMI PB70 standards and meet FDA regulations as a medical device. We offer fully customizable products to suit specific needs.

Environmental Benefits: Reduces environmental waste by 99%. Less carbon emissions compared with disposable. Non-essential packaging removed.

GPOs/Distributors: Lac-Mac has a purchasing contract with Amerinet GPO. Lac-Mac reusable surgical products are sold and serviced in the U.S. by Encompass Group, LLC.

Surgical Gowns

Lac-Mac Surgical Gowns are validated for 75–125 uses before being downgraded for alternate use. Our Level 4 surgical gowns offer high-performance, liquid-proof, viral-proof protection. We also offer lower levels of protection in Level 3 and Level 2 liquid-resistant gowns. Levels of protection are in accordance with AAMI PB70 Standards and meet FDA regulations as a medical device.

Environmental Benefits: Reusables reduce environmental waste by 99%. Reduced carbon emissions compared with disposable. Non-essential packaging has been removed.

GPOs/Distributors: Lac-Mac has a purchasing contract with Amerinet GPO. Lac-Mac reusable surgical products are sold and serviced in the U.S. by Encompass Group, LLC.

LDI Corporation

866-332-0700

www.ldisolutions.com

ENVIROLEATHER PVC-Free Synthetic Leather®

ENVIROLEATHER PVC-Free Synthetic Leather® was developed to replace vinyl and leather upholstery in health care and education furniture.

ENVIROLEATHER has:

- The appearance and soft touch of genuine leather but is PVC-free and animal-friendly.
- Outstanding durability and physical properties.
- Superior chemical resistance.
- Designed for comfort, ventilation structure absorbs heat and moisture from your body.
- Remains impervious to fluids.
- Superior seam, puncture, and tear strength.
- Stain-resistant, cleanable.
- Outstanding abrasion resistance.
- Resists wrinkling, "puddling," and sagging in field use.
- Superior environmental design.
- PVC-free, chlorine-free (no vinyl).
- Passes CAL 01350 Low VOC emissions.
- Bromine-free.
- Plasticizer-free.
- Recycled and renewable content.
- No heavy metals.
- No Azo dyestuffs.
- Animal-friendly.

Environmental Benefits:

- PVC-free, chlorine-free (no vinyl).
- Passes CAL 01350 Low VOC emissions.
- Bromine-free.
- Plasticizer-free.
- Recycled and renewable content.
- No heavy metals.
- No Azo dyestuffs.
- Animal-friendly.

Sustainable Products

LDI provides environmental, health, and safety benefits to hospitals, surgery centers, mortuaries, laboratories, and other medical facilities.

We develop or source products (with innovative chemistry and technology) that are more sustainable, less toxic, and safer.

Environmental Benefits: PVC-free. Low VOC emissions.

Non-toxic.

GPOs/Distributors: Premier; Health Trust; Cardinal; McKesson; Owens & Minor; Professional Hospital Supply.

LifeScan, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

408-942-5720

www.lifescan.com

OneTouch® Blood Glucose Monitoring Systems

OneTouch® Blood Glucose Monitoring Systems are accurate, convenient, and can make blood glucose testing less painful.

Models include: OneTouch Select, OneTouch UltraLink, OneTouch Ultra Mini/Easy DL, OneTouch Vita, OneTouch Vita2, OneTouch UltraVue, OneTouch Ping.

Environmental Benefits: Since 2007, eight more RoHS-compliant meters have been added to the product line. Compliance with RoHS is several years in advance of any regulatory requirement to do so.

M&R Facility Concepts, Inc.

210-320-4602

Medical and Research Facility Planning Consulting

Medical and Research facility planning, consulting.

Mazzetti Nash Lipsey Burch

615-312-6482

www.mazzetti.com

Commissioning

Mazzetti Nash Lipsey Burch (M+NLB) offers whole building commissioning services supported by over 140 engineering design professionals. These services are outside of the traditional boundaries of engineering design and are provided to give you a comprehensive approach to facility conception, design, system testing, and operation. The key to our commissioning team is our people. All of our professionals have served as architectural engineers, mechanical and electrical engineers, facility managers, clean and toxic process, and telecommunications discipline leaders. Combine that with a highly experienced engineering staff, and you have a powerful consulting and problem-solving combination.



MEP Engineering Design and Consulting

Founded in 1962, Mazzetti Nash Lipsey Burch (M+NLB) is a full-service consulting and design firm focused on the engineered systems of buildings, including HVAC, plumbing, fire protection, process piping, technology, lighting, and power systems. Apart from traditional design services, we provide consultation and support in facility planning, commissioning, energy management, environmental performance, equipment planning, materials and waste management, and a broad spectrum of low-voltage and information technologies.

McNeil Consumer Healthcare Division of McNEIL-PPC, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

www.jnj.com/connect/healthcare-products/consumer

BENADRYL® Allergy Quick Dissolve Strips

www.benadryl.com

BENADRYL® Allergy Quick Dissolve Strips temporarily relieve symptoms due to the common cold: Runny nose, Sneezing. They are individually wrapped and dissolve instantly.

Environmental Benefits:

The redesigned package uses 1.31 tons less paper, 50% less packaging by weight, and 42 billion BTUs less energy. It saves 16,962 lbs. solid waste and eliminates 8.48 tons soft plastic.

LISTERINE®

908-874-2905

www.listerine.com

LISTERINE® provides 24-hour protection against germs that cause plaque and gingivitis.

Environmental Benefits: In 2008, the LISTERINE® package was redesigned to reduce the overall weight of the package by 30%. This saved 402 tons of polyethylene terephthalate (PET) in the U.S.

TYLENOL®

877-TYLENOL

www.tylenol.com

TYLENOL® is used for relieving pain, reducing fever, and relieving the symptoms of allergies, cold, cough, and flu. The active ingredient is acetaminophen.

Environmental Benefits: Changed folding carton paperboard used in adult Tylenol (paper was made from trees/wood) to 100% recycled paperboard.

McNeil Nutritionals, LLC (Johnson & Johnson)

866-948-6883

www.splenda.com

SPLENDA® No Calorie Sweetener

SPLENDA® No Calorie Sweetener (introduced in 1999) contains sucralose (SPLENDA® brand sweetener), the no calorie sweetener with no unpleasant aftertaste. It can be used virtually anywhere sugar is used, like cooking and baking.

Environmental Benefits: The 2008 "out-of-box design" reduced material weight by 50% by eliminating the paperboard outer container. It reduced waste, and the energy to store and ship the product.

Medline Industries, Inc.**800-Medline****Medline.com****greensmart™ Paper Tray**

These sturdy paper-based trays are repulpable and recyclable in commercial recycling facilities and feature a water-based, biodegradable barrier coating. We currently offer an 18"x13"x1.25" tray and a 12.75"x8.75"x1.25" tray.

Environmental Benefits: Bio-based; recyclable.**GPOs/Distributors:** Medline Industries, Inc.**ECO Trays**

Our standard ECO sterile procedure trays include components from the greensmart lines. We offer six standard trays: Laparotomy, Lap Chole, Extremity, Hand, ENT, and Double Basin. You will find pigment-free plastics, paper trays, natural OR towels, and EcoDrapes inside these packs.

Environmental Benefits: Reduced environmental impact of component disposal. Components that are bio-based, dye-free, bleach-free, and sustainably-sourced.**GPOs/Distributors:** Medline Industries, Inc.**Pigment-Free Plastics**

Medline's greensmart™ Pigment-Free Plastics offer an environmentally-friendly alternative to colored plastics. Our basins are manufactured without the use of chemical dye, eliminating hazardous waste in production. Items range from patient plastics, such as bedpans, washbasins, carafes and tumblers, to OR pack components, such as emesis basins, bowls, and trays.

Environmental Benefits: Pigment-free patient plastics eliminate the unnecessary use of chemical pigments in production, eliminating mass amounts of chemical-infused waste that may enter the environment. Customized environmental metrics available for your facility to quantify the amount of pigment diverted from the environment by using pigment-free patient plastics. They are recyclable too.**GPOs/Distributors:** Patient plastics are on HPG.**PerforMAX™ Sheets**

Engineered from proprietary 100% synthetic fibers, PerforMAX™ sheets will change the way you think about health care linens. This technology delivers many benefits: lasting whiteness, reduced staining, minimal shrinkage, long product life—your patients will notice that your sheets and pillowcases consistently look brand-new.

Environmental Benefits: PerforMAX dries in half the time, dramatically cutting down on energy use when laundering. PerforMAX uses Okeo Tex Standard for raw materials and testing, meeting strict certification standards.**Medline Industries, Inc. cont'd****Sterilization Containers**

Compared to disposable sterilization wrap, reusable sterilization containers are the hands-down winner when it comes to sustainability. Our more sustainable design eliminates the need for plastic locks and disposable inner filters. The engineered aluminum case is designed for strength and longevity, and at the end of the container's useful life, it can be recycled easily.

GPOs/Distributors: Premier, Broadlane, FSS/Government.**Liqui-Loc Solidifier, PVA Pack, with Disinfectant**

EPA-approved states can use Liqui-Loc PLUS with disinfectant to reduce medical waste costs. Instead of disposing of canister waste via "red bag," they can discard the waste in a "white bag" after treatment with Liqui-Loc PLUS. Savings can be quite substantial and add up quickly. Liqui-Loc PLUS comes in PVA packs that completely dissolve in liquid, eliminating the plastic bottle packaging completely. Available in different sizes to accommodate 500cc to 3000cc suction canisters.

Environmental Benefits: 100% elimination of standard bottle waste. Customized environmental metrics for packaging diverted. Reduces RMW environmental/cost savings.**GPOs/Distributors:** Medline, HPG.**Liqui-Loc™ Solidifier, PVA Pack**

Plastic bottle packaging has been completely eliminated with Liqui-Loc™. Instead, the solidifier comes in PVA packets that completely dissolve when introduced to liquid (think of those dishwasher detergent packs). Liqui-Loc is available in different sizes to accommodate 500cc to 3000cc suction canisters.

Environmental Benefits: 100% elimination of standard bottle waste. Customized environmental metrics for packaging diverted. Raw materials manufactured ISO14001-certified facility.**GPOs/Distributors:** Medline, HPG.**Medline Natural™ OR Towel**

Our Natural™ OR Towel is produced without the use of bleaches and dyes. The Natural OR Towel is proven to be more absorbent than the traditional blue OR towel; it also produces less lint and requires fewer production hours than the traditional towel. We also offer the Natural Hand Towel, a smaller size designed to replace the use of OR towels to dry hands. Made with less material, it reduces the amount of waste.

Environmental Benefits: Dye-free and bleach-free. Hand towels reduce material waste. Less energy used in manufacturing.**GPOs/Distributors:** Medline Industries, Inc.**Medline Industries, Inc. cont'd****ReadyFlush**

ReadyFlush is a 3-in-1 product that cleans, moisturizes, and protects the skin with each wipe. It is 100% biodegradable, fully flushable, and dispersible. ReadyFlush Protect is strong enough to handle the biggest cleanups, yet is designed to break down when flushed and is safe for both sewer and septic systems.

Environmental Benefits: Made of 98% sustainably-sourced wood pulp. Made in the U.S. (Waukegan, IL). Meets biodegradability standards ASTM E1710-01.**GPOs/Distributors:** Broadlane/MedAssets, HPG, Novation, Premier, HealthSouth, Government.**ReadyFlush Jr.**

ReadyFlush Jr. is a 100% biodegradable, fully flushable and dispersible incontinence wipe perfect for the smaller mess. ReadyFlush Jr. is a fragrance-free wipe strong enough to handle the biggest cleanups, yet is designed to break down when flushed and is safe for both sewer and septic systems.

Environmental Benefits: Made of 98% sustainably-sourced wood pulp. Made in the U.S. (Waukegan, IL). Meets biodegradability standards ASTM E1710-01.**GPOs/Distributors:** Broadlane/MedAssets, HPG, Novation, Premier, HealthSouth, Government.**ReadyFlush Protect**

ReadyFlush Protect is a fragrance-free, 3-in-1 product that cleans, moisturizes, and protects the skin with each wipe. It is 100% biodegradable, fully flushable, and dispersible. ReadyFlush Protect is strong enough to handle the biggest cleanups, yet is designed to break down when flushed and is safe for both sewer and septic systems. Contains 3.2% dimethicone skin protectant.

Environmental Benefits: Made of 98% sustainably-sourced wood pulp. Made in the U.S. (Waukegan, IL). Meets biodegradability standards ASTM E1710-01.**GPOs/Distributors:** Broadlane/MedAssets, HPG, Novation, Premier, HealthSouth, Government.**Natural OR Towel**

Medline's exclusive patent-pending Natural OR towel is more absorbent and less linting than our standard OR towel. Plus it has a shorter manufacturing time of 11 hours versus 16 hours required for our standard OR towels, resulting in less pollution and waste.

Environmental Benefits: Dye-free & bleach-free. Less energy used in manufacturing. 23% less linting than blue OR towels.

Medline Industries, Inc. cont'd

EcoDrape

EcoDrape is the first and only bio-based surgical drape in the market. EcoDraperes are made of more than 96% natural fibers without dyes, chemical binders, or fluorochemicals. EcoDrape's base material is composed of wood pulp gathered from sustainably managed forests. EcoDrape has all the same features as other Medline drapes including hook and look line holders, large reinforcement zones, and premium tape. EcoDrape also meets ASTM F1670 and F1671 standards as well as flammability standards.

Environmental Benefits: 96% bio-based drape material. No dyes, chemical binders, or fluorochemicals. Wood pulp from sustainably managed forests.

PerforMAX Patient Gowns

Medline's 100% synthetic PerforMAX patient apparel resists fading and shrinking, keeping these gowns looking newer, longer than traditional blended patient gowns. Designed with patient modesty in mind, PerforMAX patient gowns feature a full tie-side closure and generous sizing. Gowns include a lower telemetry pocket for improved patient comfort. In addition, color-coded IV sleeves help caregivers quickly identify which sleeves snap together.

Environmental Benefits: PerforMAX patient gowns dry 35% to 50% faster than cotton/poly blends, dramatically cutting energy use during laundering. Faster drying time cuts costs and improves energy efficiency.

PerfecTemp™

Medline's PerfecTemp is a conductive, underbody patient warming system that prevents unintentional hypothermia and dually reduces risk of pressure ulcers. PerfecTemp is 80% more energy-efficient over forced-air blanket and will help your OR reduce your waste by replacing disposables. System features include precise temperature control at patient interface, x-ray translucency, and large surface area for uniformly warming for 100% of patients, 100% of the time.

Neutrogena Corporation

908-874-2905

www.neutrogenawave.com

NEUTROGENA® WAVE

NEUTROGENA®WAVE is clinically proven superior to manual cleansing and gentle enough for daily use. Cool foam penetrates deeper into pores, and a gentle vibrating motion stimulates skin's surface and opens pores to remove dirt, oil & makeup.

Environmental Benefits: Packaging was reduced by 32% and transportation was reduced by 62%. The new design allows for inner paper and outer plastic to be easily separated for recycling.

NewGen Surgical Inc.

415-457-1138

www.newgensurgical.com

LongoStand / Waste Bin

LongoStand waste bins are designed to solve the needs of health care professionals by providing a more efficient, environmentally-friendly method for handling of waste and recyclable material in the operating room and other hospital areas. The LongoStand bin is loaded with an endless and flexible color coded bag cassette (Longopac) designed to facilitate segregation/recycling and/or disposal of waste. The Longostand and Longopac have been developed around the principles of sustainability, quality, and performance.

Environmental Benefits: Variable size bags are always 100% full when changed. This ensures 100% utilization of the bag material and minimizes the waste associated with disposal of a partially filled waste bag.

Novation, LLC

972-581-5246

www.novationco.com

Group Purchasing Services

Novation's Environmental Preferred Purchasing Program provides the necessary framework for members to implement and maintain a sustainability program. Combining insight, resources, and expertise, Novation's program includes a rigorous RFP process to identify EPP attributes and then the technology to display them at the line-item level for easier decision making. Novation offers a wealth of online resources to start or enhance a sustainability program as well as operational expertise to offer assistance with custom issues.

Environmental Benefits: Over 200,000 environmental attributes loaded and displayed at the line-item level. Coordination with Practice Greenhealth and Health Care Without Harm to avoid duplicative efforts. Supplier-focused programs to help your suppliers help you.

Quest Resource Management Group, LLC

972-632-9431

www.questrmg.com

Optimized Performance through Sustainability (OPS)

Quest Resource Management Group provides a comprehensive commonsense approach to waste management for health care. Our Optimized Performance through Sustainability (OPS) program will minimize cost, improve sustainability, and enhance compliance. The OPS all-in-one package comes with a unique online Sustainability Intelligence Dashboard to track and report cost and volume trends as well as a dedicated team of environmental client support specialists making waste management worries a thing of the past.

Quest Resource Management Group, LLC cont'd

Environmental Benefits: Increased landfill diversion. Reduced carbon footprint. Elimination of improper hazardous waste disposal.

GPOs/Distributors: Yankee Alliance.

Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

hhendrix@its.jnj.com

www.orthoclinical.com

VITROS® Blood Analyzers

The function of all the VITROS® Blood Analyzers is to provide the health care community with accurate diagnostic information to help patients experience a better quality of life. The accuracy of the information is measured by the systems themselves which employ controls and calibrators.

Environmental Benefits: They have FSC-certified consumable packaging, 30% PCR or SFI-certified corrugated shipping boxes, recover 92% of products, use 100% less water (OL) than other leading brands, and recycle cartridges.

Ortho-McNeil Division of Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

www.janssenpharmaceuticalsinc.com

NUCYNTA® (tapentadol)

NUCYNTA® (tapentadol) is a prescription medicine for adults used to treat moderate to severe pain that is expected to last a short time.

Environmental Benefits: The 2nd generation process of creating NUCYNTA® (tapentadol) tripled the active ingredient yield, reduced raw material use 50%, reduced organic solvent use 80%, and reduced water and energy consumption >75%.

Perkins+Will

www.perkinswill.com

Perkins+Will

High-performing, and environmentally conscious design are staples of Perkins+Will's practice, with over 150 LEED-certified buildings including outpatient, acute care, and academic medical center projects. Perkins+Will is a founding partner of the Green Guide for Health Care, and helped develop LEED for Healthcare. Perkins+Will provides a free industry resource for healthy materials and optimizing healing environments: visit www.transparency.perkinswill.com. The firm was recently ranked the #1 Healthcare Giant and #1 most admired health care firm by *Contract Magazine*.

Environmental Benefits: We believe design can act as a catalyst to improve wellness by redefining the role of the built environment and support the most primary principle of medicine, "First, Do No Harm."

PSC Environmental Services

www.pscnow.com

Healthcare Waste Solutions

PSC Environmental Services provides a comprehensive approach to health care waste solutions. We offer pharmaceutical waste programs, RCRA hazardous waste management as well as state-regulated and non-regulated waste management services, supplies, and training. PSC operates a network of facilities providing national coverage and local service. In operation for over 25 years, PSC has the experience, personnel, equipment, and facilities to assist in executing a safe, compliant, and cost-effective solution for large and small clients alike.

Resource Recycling Systems

734-996-1361 ext 227

www.recycle.com

Consultants in Resource Management and Sustainable Systems

Resource Recycling Systems (RRS) is a consulting firm dedicated to building waste-free solutions for our clients, their facilities and communities. For over 27 years, our team has helped reach our clients' goals through innovation, change management, and the enhancement of operating system performance. Through technical expertise and industry knowledge, we provide business case-justified and financially sound solutions and incorporate green strategies into operating systems with implementation plans that are efficient, sustainable, and effective.

Environmental Benefits: RRS delivers results that meet and exceed our clients' economic, social, and environmental goals. Our work results in improved regulatory compliance, increased recovery, and decreased waste in the environment.

Sizewise

800-814-9389

www.sizewise.net

Sizewise Envy Line G Series | Non-Powered Mattress Line

Introducing the industry's first and only sustainable mattress line that reduces exposure to known chemicals of concern. The G Series is designed to maximize pressure ulcer prevention and provide treatment, including the option of alternating pressure therapy. Available in 24, 12, 9, and 4 cell configurations, the G Series has multiple sizing options including bariatric sizes and weight capacities. The G Series is compatible with most bed platforms, including step-deck frames. Also available in the Envy Line: S Series Stretcher Pad and O Series OR Table Pad.

Environmental Benefits: The entire Envy Line is made from non-hazardous fire retardant materials and meets or exceeds the newest industry guidelines and certifications for environmental sustainability. This latest Sizewise innovation takes a halogen-free approach to the contents of its fabric, fire barriers, and foam cores and ensures that these harmful chemicals are not causing harm to patients and health care workers.

GPOs/Distributors: MedAssets, Yankee Alliance.

Sizewise cont'd

Sizewise Envy Line O Series | Non-Powered Operating Room Table Pad

443-610-4264

www.sizewise.net

Introducing the industry's first and only sustainable operating room table pad that reduces exposure to known chemicals of concern. The O Series is a non-powered self-adjusting gel pad with a five-piece universal design that fits most OR tables. Also available in the Envy Line: G Series Non-Powered Mattress Line and S Series Stretcher Pad.

Environmental Benefits: The entire Envy Line is made from non-hazardous fire retardant materials and meets or exceeds the newest industry guidelines and certifications for environmental sustainability. This latest Sizewise innovation takes a halogen-free approach to the contents of its fabric, fire barriers, and foam cores and ensures that these harmful chemicals are not causing harm to patients and health care workers.

GPOs/Distributors: MedAssets, Yankee Alliance.

Sizewise Envy Line S Series | Non-Powered Stretcher Pad

443-610-4264

www.sizewise.net

Introducing the industry's first and only sustainable stretcher pad that reduces exposure to known chemicals of concern. The S Series utilizes independently conforming cells for maximum pressure redistribution. The S Series has multiple sizing and weight capacity options. Also available in the Envy Line: G Series Non-Powered Mattress Line and O Series OR Table Pad.

Environmental Benefits: The entire Envy Line is made from non-hazardous fire retardant materials and meets or exceeds the newest industry guidelines and certifications for environmental sustainability. This latest Sizewise innovation takes a halogen-free approach to the contents of its fabric, fire barriers, and foam cores and ensures that these harmful chemicals are not causing harm to patients and health care workers.

GPOs/Distributors: MedAssets, Yankee Alliance.

SRI Surgical

813-891-9550

www.srisurgical.com

Instrument Sterilization

Instrument Rental and Sterilization Program • On-Demand Sterilization

SRI Surgical has over 20 years of providing reusable surgical products and reprocessing services to hospitals and surgery centers. Our processing facilities adhere to the standards of an FDA-regulated medical device manufacturing environment, ensuring quality and fully compliant sterilization. SRI has an instrument rental program that provides sterilized sets ready for use when you are.

Environmental Benefits: Reduces OR waste via the use of reusable vs. disposable instrumentation. Reduces packaging waste in the OR. Reduces use of hospital's sterilization resources.



SRI Surgical cont'd

GPOs/Distributors: SRI Surgical has purchasing contracts with the major group purchasing organizations.

Sterile Surgical Packs

SRI Surgical has over 20 years of providing reusable surgical products and reprocessing services to hospitals and surgery centers. Our processing facilities adhere to the standards of an FDA-regulated medical device manufacturing environment, ensuring quality and fully compliant sterilization. SRI works with you to determine the configuration of surgical gowns, towels, drapes, table covers, and basin sets that will meet your surgical pack requirements, and is supported by a logistics system that minimizes the impact of your hospital's on-hand inventory.

Environmental Benefits: Reduces OR waste. Reduces OR product packaging waste. Provides low unit of measure of hospital inventory.

GPOs/Distributors: SRI Surgical has purchasing contracts with the major group purchasing organizations.

Sterilization Services

SRI Surgical has over 20 years of providing reusable surgical products and reprocessing services to hospitals and surgery centers. Our processing facilities adhere to the standards of an FDA-regulated medical device manufacturing environment, ensuring quality and fully compliant sterilization. SRI, recently acquired by Synergy Health plc, now joins this world leader in sterile processing and the provision of surgical instrument sets. High-quality products and services, along with sterilization expertise, means you can count on SRI to complete the commitment you have made to reducing waste in your OR.

Environmental Benefits: Reduces the volume of disposable instrumentation in the OR. Uses environmentally-friendly steam for sterilization of instrument sets. Reduces use of hospital's sterilization resources.

GPOs/Distributors: SRI Surgical has purchasing contracts with the major group purchasing organizations.

Sterilmed

763-488-3354

www.sterilmed.com

Reprocessing, Equipment Repair, and Pre-Owned Equipment Sales

Sterilmed helps hospitals conserve health care resources and positively impact the community through safe, single-use device reprocessing. We restore over 6 million devices annually. In 2011, Sterilmed clients saved over \$83 million. Through these savings, medical facilities can divert biomedical waste from landfills, hire more staff, provide health care to the uninsured, and invest in new life-saving technologies. Our reprocessing services are regulated by the FDA and have earned an outstanding reputation for high quality.

Environmental Benefits: In 2011, Sterilmed clients diverted over 2.4 million pounds of medical devices from landfills.

SteriMed Medical Waste Solutions, Inc.

1-855-STERIMED ext 793

sterimedsystems.com

SteriMed Systems (System S70 & System S15)

SteriMed Systems are patented clean-air technology systems for on-site medical waste treatment and destruction. The systems are compact in size and simultaneously shred, macerate, disinfect, and dewater medical waste using an environmentally-friendly FDA-registered disinfectant, SterCid™. After the 20-minute treatment of the potentially infectious medical waste, the resulting solid waste material is simply and cost-effectively discarded as regular trash in your local community landfill in accordance with solid waste regulations.

Environmental Benefits: Solid waste landfill footprint reduced 90%. Freshwater footprint reduction. Non-burn waste technology.

Strategic Organizational Sustainability (SOS) Partners

906-361-0394

www.SOSpartners.org

Partners Program

The Partners Program is designed to "Hardwire Sustainability into the Culture of the Organization." It is a comprehensive approach to Sustainability Management. It is the standardized, yet tailored, approach to the unique needs of the individual client hospital. This approach recognizes the necessary balance between providing value-driven products and honoring each organization's unique culture.

Environmental Benefits: By "building a business case for sustainability," an organization creates a balanced implementation plan that aggressively and concurrently targets the environmental, engagement, and fiscal elements of sustainability.

Education and Training

616-304-0484

www.SOSpartners.org

SOS Partners offers a full continuum of training and education services. We cater to the specific needs of each hospital client organization. Our education and training programs include strategic planning (targeted to boards of directors), comprehensive executive planning (senior management), as well as process facilitation, employee education, provider education, and operational implementation.

Environmental Benefits: The balanced approach to education and training allows SOS Partners to tailor its efforts to the audience. A board's need to understand community benefit reporting is very different than a line staff member's need to understand waste streams.

Strategic Organizational Sustainability (SOS) Partners cont'd

Focused Consultation

906-361-0394

SOSpartners.org

SOS Partners provides focused consultation for a broad continuum of sustainability topics. We work closely with our client organizations to provide one-stop-sustainability consultation. Between our parent organization, Mazzetti, and "Partner Consultants," we cover the entire continuum of sustainability disciplines.

Environmental Benefits: With a full continuum of consulting services addressing concerns in the built and operating environments, SOS Partners programs are designed to assist an organization improve its environmental impact in every engagement selected by the client.

The SOS Assessment

616-304-0484

SOSpartners.org

The SOS Assessment looks at all processes and measures the organization's opportunities against industry benchmarks (the Gap) and assesses the organization's internal capacity to close the "Gap." The assessment is designed to determine which elements of the Partners Program will be beneficial if engaged by the client organization.

Environmental Benefits: The result of the SOS Assessment is the creation of the Triple Bottom Line Scorecard. This tool measures and illustrates the environmental, engagement, and economic opportunities within an organization. This scorecard serves as the baseline for a balanced approach to improved sustainable operations.

Stryker Sustainability Solutions

888-888-3433

www.stryker.com/en-us/Divisions/Sustainability/index.htm

Medical Device Reprocessing and Remanufacturing

Stryker Sustainability Solutions (formerly Ascent) is a division of Stryker that leads the industry's pursuit of more sustainable and responsible use of resources in health care. Stryker Sustainability Solutions provides advanced medical device reprocessing and remanufacturing services that deliver substantial supply-cost savings to leading health care organizations so that hospitals can make a difference for the environment and use resources in the best way possible to deliver improved care.

Environmental Benefits: Stryker Sustainability Solutions assists health care providers with using scarce resources in smarter ways. Many of our partners use our reprocessing and remanufacturing services as cornerstones of their environmental sustainability strategies. Since our inception, our customers have eliminated more than 11,000 tons from U.S. landfills by reprocessing single-use medical devices they would have needlessly thrown away.



Tibotec Therapeutics Division of Centocor Ortho Biotech Products, L.P. (Johnson & Johnson)

321-460-3639

www.intelence-info.com

INTELENCE® (etravirine)

INTELENCE® (etravirine) 100 mg tablets are a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI) approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in January 2008. Intelence is approved for treatment-experienced patients who have HIV strains that are resistant to an NNRTI and other HIV drugs. Intelence works by blocking HIV's reverse transcriptase enzyme.

Environmental Benefits: The manufacturing process was changed to increase yield, reduce methylene chloride use 60% by recycling back into the process, and reduce spent waste solvents by 540,000L/yr.

United Biotech

866-753-5700

www.united-biotech.net

Tri-Power Enzymatic Cleaners

With the development of TRI-POWER Enzymatic Cleaner, United Biotech has developed the premier one-product, triple-enzymatic detergent. Our extensive knowledge of enzymes has enabled us to formulate a cleaning solution that provides the most comprehensive, cost-effective, and thorough cleaning available for each step of the decontamination process.

Environmental Benefits: The only product that truly cleans through the power of enzymes with a safe neutral pH. Safe for all instrumentation including scopes and the safest product available for your staff. Super concentrated, non-corrosive, completely free rinsing, cost-effective, and completely bio-degradable.

Velmed

724-449-3200

www.velmedinc.com

STOPPER brand Foot and Corner Shield (Corner Protector)

The STOPPER brand Foot and Corner Shield prevents holes, rips, and tears in sterilization wraps from heavy and sharp corner surgical trays. A multi-use reusable product, it will not retain moisture or bottom out when placed on the bottom corners of a surgical tray, and is lint- and residue-free. The STOPPER will reduce the amount and use of "Blue Wrap" and the amount of "Rapid Processing" items that have been compromised with a hole, rip, or tear. **Environmental Benefits:** LATEX- and PVC-free. Recyclable. Does not contain lead, cadmium, mercury, or hexavalent chromium intentionally added. Not listed as toxic under California Prop. 65. Not manufactured with ozone-depleting substances.



Velmed cont'd

STOPPER Edge Protector

The STOPPER Edge Protector will help prevent tears underneath and along horizontal edges of surgical trays. The product elevates the complete tray off the “blue wrap,” and this allows for easier sliding of heavy trays. This elevation allows for better air circulation for faster drying time and complete sterilant dispersion. It can be used in Steam, Eto, and Plasma (Sterrads) types of sterilization and is a multi-use product.

Environmental Benefits: Reduces the amount of “Blue Wrap” use that ends up in a landfill. Recyclable and the material is very environmentally friendly. The product is a multi-use reusable.

Vernacare

800-268-2422

www.vernacare.ca

Vernacare System

Vernacare provides environmentally-responsible solutions for human waste management that improve infection control. The Vernacare System combines bleach-free, biodegradable, bedside products made from 100% postconsumer newsprint with a specially-designed disposal unit. Our system eliminates the hazardous task of rinsing over open sinks and toilets as well as eliminates the use of plastic utensils, hence reducing landfill deposits. Furthermore, our disposal unit utilizes a high-efficiency motor and controls cold water consumption to consider energy usage.

Environmental Benefits: Made from 100% postconsumer newsprint. Utensils are bleach and dye-free. Biodegradable, unlike plastic utensils.

GPOs/Distributors: Premier, Broadlane, Novation, MedAssets, Health Trust Purchasing Group, Amerinet.

Vistakon Pharmaceuticals, LLC (Johnson & Johnson)

904-443-3723

www.acuvue.com/products-oasys-family

ACUVUE® OASYS® Contact Lenses

ACUVUE® OASYS® Brand Contact Lenses help improve vision.

Environmental Benefits: They contain SFI-certified or FSC-certified secondary packaging, 30% PCR secondary packaging, use 25% less primary packaging than leading brands, and changed manufacturing processes to reduce VOC emissions 9 tons annually.

WESTON Solutions, Inc.

610-425-0876

www.westonsolutions.com

Environmental Sustainability Consulting, Comprehensive Energy and Utility Management Program, and Technology Engineering Design and Consulting

WESTON has a proven track record of helping clients to prioritize choices, customize solutions, and get the best ROI. We partner with you throughout your sustainability journey, from gathering baseline data and setting goals to choosing projects that solve more than one challenge at a time. WESTON® can help turn your sustainability vision into successful and sustainable projects, operations, and facilities. Energy, waste, water, green purchasing, green buildings—we can help on all of these.

Environmental Benefits: Sustainability is a powerful tool to augment your strategic and business plans while providing benefits in patient outcomes and the environment.

GreenGrid® green roof system

860-368-3204

www.greengridroofs.com

GreenGrid® is a modular pre-vegetated green roof system that is beautiful from the start. GreenGrid offers flexible design capabilities and can transform bland unused rooftop space to create healing gardens or other retreat spaces. Unlike other green roof manufacturers, contractors, or distributors, we have all the in-house capabilities to bring a green roof project from start to finish and beyond, using any combination of services in design, engineering, construction, and ongoing operations and maintenance.

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Xenex Healthcare

800-553-0069

www.xenex.com

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Environmental Benefits: Cooley Dickinson – a 67% drop in C. diff. Temple VA-Xenex was 16x more effective at treating MRSA than traditional cleaning. MD Anderson-Xenex had a 95% reduction in C. diff vs. bleach, at 70%.

GPOs/Distributors: Premier.

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Categories of Products and Services

MEDICAL PRODUCTS

Gloves

Kimberly-Clark

Linen and Apparel

Kimberly-Clark

Lac-Mac Limited

Medline Industries, Inc.

SRI Surgical

Mattresses and Pads

Medline Industries, Inc.

Sizewise (G Series | Non-powered mattress line)

Sizewise (O Series | Non-powered operating room table pad)

Sizewise (S Series | Non-powered stretcher pad)

Monitoring & Diagnostic Equipment & Supplies

LifeScan, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

Non-Surgical Medical Products and Equipment

3M Health Care

Kimberly-Clark

Medline Industries, Inc.

Patient Care Products

Medline Industries, Inc.

Vernacare

Patient Warming

Augustine Temperature Management

Pharmaceuticals

Centocor Ortho Biotech, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

Cilag Pharmaceuticals (Johnson & Johnson)

Janssen Division of Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

McNeil Consumer Healthcare Division of McNEIL-PPC, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

Pharmaceuticals cont'd

Ortho-McNeil Division of Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

Tibotec Therapeutics Division of Centocor Ortho Biotech Products, L.P. (Johnson & Johnson)

Surgical/Anesthesia Products & OR Supplies

ARC Medical, Inc.

Compression Therapy Concepts

Dornoch Medical Systems, Inc.

Ethicon Endo Surgery Inc (Johnson & Johnson)

Kimberly-Clark

Medline Industries, Inc.

SRI Surgical

Velmed

NON-MEDICAL PRODUCTS

Building & Furniture Products

Alpar Architectural Products, LLC

Construction Specialties, Inc.

Eastman Chemical Company

LDI Corporation

Sizewise (G Series | Non-powered mattress line)

Sizewise (O Series | Non-powered operating room table pad)

Sizewise (S Series | Non-powered stretcher pad)

Cleaning Products and Equipment

HHA Services

Enzymatic Detergents

United Biotech

Facilities, Maintenance, Fleet Supplies

SteriMed Medical Waste Solutions, Inc.

Food and Food Service Products

Eastman Chemical Company

Green Roofs

Weston Solutions, Inc.

Medical Packaging

Action Bag Company

Beacon Converters, Inc.

Office Supplies

Action Bag Company

Personal Care Products

Johnson & Johnson Consumer Product Companies, Inc.

McNeil Consumer Healthcare Division of McNEIL-PPC, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

Neutrogena Corporation

Vistakon Pharmaceuticals, LLC (Johnson & Johnson)

Sterilization & Disinfection Products

3M Health Care

Advanced Sterilization Products Division of Ethicon, Inc. (Johnson & Johnson)

United Biotech

Velmed

Xenex Healthcare

Waste and Recycling Products

Action Bag Company

EmCo Consulting, Inc.

NewGen Surgical, Inc.

SteriMed Medical Waste Solutions, Inc.

MEDICAL & NON-MEDICAL PRODUCTS

Eastman Chemical Company

SERVICES**Architectural, Engineering, & Design Services**

Boulder Associates Architects
ERDMAN
HDR Architecture Inc
LDI Corporation
M&R Facility Concepts, Inc.
Mazzetti Nash Lipsey Burch
Perkins+Will
Resource Recycling Systems
Weston Solutions, Inc.

Consulting: Environmental, Compliance, Sustainability, Waste & Management

EmCo Consulting, Inc.
ERDMAN
GT Environmental, Inc.
Kessler Consulting, Inc.
Mazzetti Nash Lipsey Burch
NewGen Surgical, Inc.
Optimized Performance through Sustainability (OPS)
PSC Environmental Services
Resource Recycling Systems
Strategic Organizational Sustainability (SOS) Partners
Weston Solutions, Inc.

Energy and Utility Management

Weston Solutions, Inc.

Engineering, Architectural, & Design Services

Mazzetti Nash Lipsey Burch

Food Service

McNeil Nutritionals, LLC (Johnson & Johnson)

Group Purchasing Services

Amerinet
HealthTrust
Novation, LLC

Healing Gardens

Dirtworks Landscape Architecture PC
Weston Solutions, Inc.

In-Hospital Services: Facilities, EVS, Sustainability Directors

Strategic Organizational Sustainability (SOS) Partners

Landscape Architecture, Design, and Site Planning

Dirtworks Landscape Architecture PC
Weston Solutions, Inc.

Linen Processing, Sterile Processing, Uniform Rental

SRI Surgical

Sterilization & Disinfection Services

Xenex Healthcare

SUD Reprocessing Services

Sterilmed

Training and Certification Services

Strategic Organizational Sustainability (SOS) Partners

Waste & Recycling Management Services

B.W. Recycling, Inc.
EmCo Consulting, Inc.
HHA Services
Optimized Performance through Sustainability (OPS)
PSC Environmental Services

Waste Management: Pharmaceutical

PSC Environmental Services

Waste Minimization Services

B.W. Recycling, Inc.
Resource Recycling Systems



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- Conserves petroleum product/natural resources

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A complete service providing characterization, collection and disposal of Rx waste in compliance with EPA/DOT regulations and The Joint Commission standards.

Environmental Benefits

- Keeps pharmaceuticals out of the water
- 91% of reusable containers are reused
- Based on a 24 month study in a 150 bed hospital, on average, 4.0 tons of plastic was diverted from landfills

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PRACTICE Greenhealth MEMBER

Green and Clean

Take HHI's Safer Chemicals Challenge and make sustainable cleaning products a staple at your facility.

BY GREENHEALTH STAFF

DID YOU KNOW that keeping a hospital clean can actually be harmful to the hospital staff? Studies have shown that nurses exposed to harsh cleaning products and disinfectants are 70 percent more likely to develop asthma. Exposure to everyday cleaning solutions—even something as seemingly innocuous as carpet cleaner—can wreak havoc on the lungs. Traditional cleaning solutions can raise other ecological and human health concerns, too. Aside from contributing to poor indoor air quality, harsh solutions contain cancer-causing chemicals, are irritating to the eyes and skin, and can affect reproductive organs. Some of these products also contain persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic chemicals (PBTs); are classified as hazardous waste; and may contribute to environmental pollution during their manufacture, transport, use, and/or disposal.

So what's the good news? There are plenty of nontoxic and less-toxic cleaning products on the market. Sustainable or "green" cleaning maintains and improves cleanliness and supports infection prevention and control while protecting patients, staff, and the environment from the

risks posed by traditional cleaning materials and processes. By enrolling in the Healthier Hospitals Initiative Safer Chemicals Challenge, you can help your facility make the switch by committing to making 90 percent of your cleaning supply procurements green.

Third-Party Certification

Many environmentally friendly cleaning products have been tested for performance. Practice Greenhealth recommends using cleaning products that are "certified" for environmental preferability. This means that a third party has reviewed scientific claims and environmental exposure information and verified that it meets certain criteria. The two most prominent certification programs for cleaning products are Green Seal and EcoLogo. GreenGuard also has a certification related to indoor air quality impacts of certain cleaning products. EPA's Design for the Environment (DfE) Program also provides third-party certification. By transitioning to certified green cleaning products, your organization can improve worker safety, improve



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Traditional cleaning products can cause poor indoor air quality and asthma and raises other health and environmental concerns. Making the switch to more sustainable cleaning supplies at your facility can improve worker safety and reduce environmental impact.

patient and staff satisfaction, reduce resource use and environmental impact, and still achieve an equally high level of cleanliness and disinfection.

Case Study

A report by Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility focused on green initiatives at Seattle Children's Hospital—a Practice Greenhealth member and enrollee in all six Healthier Hospitals Initiatives. (Seattle Children's has won Environmental Excellence Awards in past years.). The report explains the hospital's green cleaning plan, designed to protect the health of patients and staff while maintaining strict standards of cleanliness. The plan required that contract custodial vendors list the products they are using and be responsible for purchasing and tracking the hospital's approved cleaning products. The products must be odor- and fragrance-free, Green Seal certified when possible, and concentrated when available. Neutral cleaners are to be used in patient areas on non-critical surfaces and metal-free floor products, while manufacturer-approved cleaners and disinfectants must be used for equipment and devices.

Seattle Children's Hospital matches cleaning practices to facility needs by breaking rooms down into three categories: Critical/High Risk, Medium Risk, and Non-Critical/Low Risk. Because there is no green disinfectant, this factor allows the hospital to use disinfectants on an as-needed basis, targeting High and Medium Risk areas, with less emphasis on Low Risk

areas. For instance, the staff focuses disinfectant use on cleaning high-touch areas. The hospital also uses microfiber cloths for cleaning and dusting, HEPA-rated vacuums, and hot water extraction carpet cleaners. Propane equipment is not allowed.

Selecting Disinfectants

Because EPA-registered hospital-use disinfectants are regulated under FIFRA as pesticides, the EPA prohibits labeling of these products under a third-party green certification or labeling system. This presents a challenge to hospitals that wish to select disinfectants that are effective at killing the required pathogens but also have the least impact on worker, patient, and environmental health.

While Practice Greenhealth does not yet have an easy answer to this challenge, there is hope. EPA's Antimicrobial Division is reexamining whether to allow registered disinfectants to be subsequently labeled under a separate green certification label. In the meantime, Practice Greenhealth recommends using an EPA-registered product (think effectiveness first) and then exploring which of those products may present the least exposure risk for cleaning and clinical staff, patients, and the environment. EcoLogo—based in Canada—does allow green labeling of disinfectants under Standard CCD-166: Disinfectants and Cleaners. One could cross-reference the EPA-registered list with those products to see if there is overlap. But again, be sure to use only those disinfectants that are EPA-registered in the U.S. 🌱

Seattle Children's Hospital matches cleaning practices to facility needs by breaking rooms down into three categories: Critical/High Risk, Medium Risk, and Non-Critical/Low Risk.

HHI SAFER CHEMICALS CHALLENGE

Choose to commit to one, two, or all three categories listed below:

1. Green Cleaning: Purchase 90 percent Green Seal or EcoLogo certified cleaning products in these four categories: carpets, windows, all-purpose cleaning, and bathrooms.
2. DEHP/PVC Reduction: Eliminate DEHP/PVC from at least one product line.
3. Healthy Interiors: Ensure that 25 percent of the annual purchase volume of freestanding furniture and medical furnishings eliminates the intentional use of halogenated flame retardants, formaldehyde, perfluorinated compounds, and PVC (aka vinyl).

For more information, visit healthierhospitals.org.

Purchasing for Mealtimes

Accessing sustainably produced food: strategies and tools for hospitals and GPOs

BY GRETCHEN MILLER AND KATHY PRYOR,
HEALTH CARE WITHOUT HARM,
HEALTHY FOOD IN HEALTH CARE PROGRAM

FOR NEARLY 10 YEARS, Health Care Without Harm's (HCWH) Healthy Food in Health Care program has worked with hospitals across the country to help them purchase and serve more sustainably produced food. As they transform their food service, hospitals are asking their distributors for organic and local produce, humanely raised eggs, sustainably harvested seafood, meat and poultry raised without the routine use of antibiotics or arsenic, and dairy raised without artificial hormones.

Demand for Sustainable

Hundreds of hospitals are using sustainable products in their patient and cafeteria menus, supporting local agriculture by serving regionally produced food, and creating food-service policies that make sustainable procurement an official mandate of their facilities. HCWH's 2011 national survey of participating hospitals found that nearly 25 percent of produce, 63 percent of dairy, and 24 percent of beef purchased and served came from sustainable sources (Menu of Change, 2011). Hospitals are continuously striving to increase these numbers. Additionally, just over 400 hospitals from across the country have signed the Healthy Food in Health Care Pledge, demonstrating their commitment to actively support a sustainable, safe, and fair food system.

Defining Sustainability

When hospitals ask for a sustainable product, what exactly do they mean? "Sustainable" has become quite a buzzword, and everyone has a different definition of what it means. This can be frustrating for hospitals, distributors, and group purchasing organizations (GPOs) alike.

Ultimately, third-party certifications and label claims provide the most reliable way to tell whether a product is sustainable. Third-party certifications are rules, compliance methods, and measurements that are developed by external, independent groups. Products holding a third-party certification are evaluated by an external organization to ensure that they are in compliance with the certification standards.

USDA/FDA-approved label claims have a consistent definition and have been approved by either the United States Department

of Agriculture (USDA) or Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Producers are required to provide documentation that demonstrates claim compliance to the appropriate regulatory agency.

As the demand for sustainable products grows, so does the field of third-party certifications and label claims. Examples of some meaningful third-party certifications and USDA/FDA-approved label claims that address environmental, health, and animal welfare issues include:

- USDA Organic
- Food Alliance Certified
- Fair Trade Certified
- Animal Welfare Approved
- Certified Humane Raised & Handled
- Rainforest Alliance Certified
- Protected Harvest
- Salmon Safe
- Raised without Antibiotics
- Raised without Hormones
- rBGH/rBST-Free
- 100 percent Grass-Fed

You can learn more about these and other meaningful certifications and labels on the Healthy Food in Health Care website: noharm.org/lib/downloads/food/EcoLabels_Matrix.pdf.

Hospitals Create Sustainable Purchasing Policies

Increasing numbers of hospitals are communicating their desire for sustainable products by creating sustainable food purchasing policies and priorities. Two standout examples from the Northwest region include Overlake Hospital Medical Center (OHMC) and Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU). OHSU Sustainable Food Program Manager Eecole Copen notes, "A sustainable food policy is a guiding light, helping the food and nutrition department stay the course toward building the infrastructure of a sustainable food system."

The Role of GPOs

As a nation, we have witnessed the movement of "sustainable food" from the fringe to the mainstream. Today, the availability of this type of food is at an all-time high, a vastly different

[Continued on page 32]

SUSTAINABLE FOOD POLICY CASE STUDIES

OREGON HEALTH & SCIENCE UNIVERSITY

OHSU's purchasing priorities guidelines operationalize its sustainable food purchasing policies by clarifying the minimum qualifications a product must have to be considered a sustainable purchase. The following excerpt demonstrates the types of guidelines that have been developed for various food products:

Poultry (turkey, chicken) and Pork: *Major health issue:* Antibiotics (abx) used to prevent infection of animals in conventional production may decrease abx effectiveness in humans. Arsenic, found in poultry feed and used for growth promotion, feed efficiency, and improved pigmentation in conventional poultry production, may increase risk of cancer in humans.

- Ultimate goal: Organic/Food Alliance Certified and regionally grown and processed.
- 1st priority: Certified Organic (because prohibits abx in pork production). Ask supplier about arsenic use—no label claim addresses this.
- Next priority: Food Alliance Certified.
- Next priority: Certified Humane Raised and Handled or Animal Welfare approved.
- Next priority: No antibiotics added (check with supplier to make sure no arsenic was used in production). Minimum requirements to be considered “sustainable.”
- Next priority: Regionally grown and processed.



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OVERLAKE HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER

Recognizing its responsibility as a health-promoting organization, Overlake Hospital Medical Center's sustainable food policy “seeks to improve the health of our patients, employees, our communities, and the environment by increasing access to fresh, healthy food in the hospital environs” and “promote agricultural practices that are ecologically sound, fiscally viable, culturally appropriate, and socially responsible.”

The hospital's policy includes the following goals:

- Become a model for the industry and the nation by encouraging healthy food choices in our inpatient food services, cafes, vending machines, and catered meals.
- Work with local farmers, community-based organizations, and food suppliers to increase the availability of locally sourced food (within 200-mile radius of Overlake Hospital campus).
- Encourage our vendors to supply us with food that is produced without synthetic pesticides and hormones or antibiotics given to animals in the absence of diagnosed disease, including foods and/or ingredients produced using genetically modified organisms (GMOs).
- Work toward a 20 percent reduction in meat purchases through wider implementation of Meatless Mondays and similar initiatives.

Increasing numbers of hospitals are communicating their desire for sustainable products by creating sustainable food purchasing policies and priorities.

Look for labels such as rBGH/rBST-Free, Raised without Hormones, and 100 percent Grass Fed before procuring milk, meats, and eggs for your facility.

As a nation, we have witnessed the movement of “sustainable food” from the fringe to the mainstream.



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picture than just 10 years ago. No longer do hospitals need to cobble together many different distributors and vendors to access sustainable products. With current supply levels, hospitals should be able to purchase these products through their broadline distributors. Yet, hospitals continue to struggle to procure sustainable food. With a sluggish economy and the threat of layoffs and budget cuts looming, hospitals are looking for the cost benefits and efficiencies that contracted broadline distributors offer.


GPOs can play a significant role in helping hospitals serve more sustainable products. These entities leverage the collective purchasing power of a group of hospitals to obtain lower prices from vendors. By negotiating the inclusion of sustainable products into food service contracts, hospitals can have reliable, affordable access to products that support the health of individuals and the environment.

In partnership with Practice Greenhealth (PGH), the Healthy Food in Health Care program has created a set of environmentally preferable purchasing guides that help GPOs incorporate questions about sustainability criteria

related to food in their RFP/RFI (Request for Proposal/Request for Information) processes.

These guides were designed for use by GPOs but may also apply to national food service contractors or distributors. Please consider sharing these resources with your sales representatives or GPO advisory team. These resources are free and available on both the Healthy Food in Health Care website, www.healthyfoodinhealthcare.org/resources.php and under Food in Practice Greenhealth's EPP Specifications and Resources Guide, www.practicegreenhealth.org/epp/spec/food.

Moving Forward Together

Ultimately, the rising demand for sustainable products comes from a desire to enhance the health of individuals, communities, and the environment. With their enormous purchasing power, hospitals have a significant opportunity to help shift the food system in a more sustainable, equitable, and healthy direction. Distributors, group purchasing organizations, and the hospitals they serve must work together to create market options that support good food choices and a healthy, sustainable bottom line. 

*The **Healthy Food in Health Care Program** is a national initiative of Health Care Without Harm, which works with hospitals across the country to help improve the health and sustainability of their food services. For more information about the Healthy Food in Health Care Program, and to access a variety of tools and resources, visit healthyfoodinhealthcare.org.*

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