

HandCraft Services Pioneer Affordable Scrub Dispenser

Autovalet’s CabiNet RFID dispenser has just completed a year’s field trial with HandCraft customer LewisGale Medical Center in Salem Va. where the compact unit issues scrubs to over 350 employees.

Sean Paris, LewisGale’s EVS Director, is very happy with the results. “The scrub locker program, while certainly an improvement over an unregulated “free for all” system, has limitations. CabiNet has allowed Lewis Gale to add wearers and improve control and efficiency all while reducing cost.”

Compared to much more expensive dispensers, CabiNet provides intelligent control using RFID. “It doesn’t have to be a one-for-one system. Users appreciate the flexibility CabiNet provides, but know they have to return whatever they have taken – not any scrub, or piece of linen for that matter, but the scrub they took” said Sean.

HandCraft had already invested in RFID for their state-of-the-art plant in Richmond Va. Business Development Director Curtis Nichols explains “We wanted a scrub dispenser that could become part of our service, not some expensive addition. CabiNet costs a fraction of what other vendors charge for machines with no RFID tracking”.

CabiNet tracks and controls usage by scanning the RFID chips fitted by HandCraft Services to their scrub inventory. Users are given a ‘credit limit’ that allows them to swipe their card and take scrubs - provided they are up-to-date with returning used items. Each time a user swipes their card, the unit records the chip numbers of the clean items taken. Soiled items are scanned as they are dropped off in a companion unit situated nearby.



HandCraft provides each customer with Autovalet’s Dress Code software which allows the hospital to add and delete users and view stock levels in real time. Dress Code is co-branded with HandCraft’s logo visible on all screens.



Sean Paris noted that feedback within the hospital has been positive “It’s so simple to use – just swipe your card and open a door. You don’t have to enter size details and you don’t have to swipe to return items.”

Loading the unit is also fast and as it has no moving parts, reliability has been good. “It takes around 5-10 minutes to re-load as you get access to half the unit at a time. And you don’t need to pair up tops and pants – users can make up their own sets.”

HandCraft is now rolling out CabiNet to more HCA hospitals along with those in other health systems. As Curtis says “This is the future for us. Despite adding more users we have reduced lost scrubs, a priority for HandCraft and our customers, and have never had an issue with stock outs. CabiNet is both intelligent and affordable”.

For further information on CabiNet, please contact Autovalet Systems: sales@autovaletsystems.com