

## CabiNet Scrub Dispenser Proves a Success for LewisGale Medical Center

Autovalet’s affordable CabiNet RFID dispenser has completed a year’s field trial with LewisGale Medical Center in Salem VA where over 350 employees obtain their scrubs from the compact unit.

Sean Paris, LewisGale’s EVS Director, is very happy with the results: “Our named locker program was costly and yet we wanted to provide scrubs to an additional 200 users. CabiNet allowed us to introduce bulk scrubs for all users and save a lot of money.”

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 but the one they took” said Sean.

CabiNet tracks and controls usage by scanning the RFID chips fitted by laundry vendor, 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 also scanned as they are returned in a companion unit situated adjacent or



nearby. All transactions can be viewed in Autovalet’s Dress Code software and changes to a user’s credit status are promptly updated to the CabiNet dispenser.

Over 300 scrub pieces can be stored within the unit which measures just 4ft wide and 2ft deep. Because it features sliding doors, CabiNet can be installed in tight spaces such as hallways or lobbies.

Sean Paris also noted that feedback has been positive since CabiNet affords employees the ability to collect up to six items at one time – a bonus for those with outlying offices or departments who can make fewer trips to the dispenser. “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.”

Dress Code simplifies management by importing user data from HR systems, enabling LewisGale to easily add and delete users of the unit and check compliance. Sean also says that the wide range of reports has been very useful both for monitoring usage and allocating internal expenses: “We can track the popularity of each size which helps keep the unit well-stocked – and we get email alerts if any size runs low.”

CabiNet and Dress Code are manufactured by Autovalet and at LewisGale, they were supplied by Handcraft as part of their scrub service. Business Development Director Curtis Nichols is extremely pleased with the unit's performance: "CabiNet answers the demand for an affordable scrub dispenser and allows us to better serve our clients with an intelligent solution using RFID."

LewisGale plans to install an additional unit to supply more users as well as handling scrub jackets while Handcraft are now rolling out CabiNet to more HCA hospitals along with those in other health systems.



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