



NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL SURGICAL SCHEDULE STAYS ON TRACK DURING MAJOR CONSTRUCTION WITH MOBILE MEDICAL DEVICE REPROCESSING UNIT FROM STERIS

TORONTO – December 11, 2017 – When St. Michael's Hospital began a major building and renovation project, its Medical Device Reprocessing Department (MDRD) had to move out of its longtime home in the basement so its space could be modernized to meet Canadian Standards Association requirements and improve workflow. The hospital needed an innovative solution that would allow the MDRD to continue to function 24-7 and provide clean and sterile medical devices and equipment to all areas of the hospital from the operating rooms to the catheterization lab. With more than 30,000 surgical cases a year, St. Michael's knew even the slightest interruption in service or sterility standards was unacceptable.

The solution ultimately came from St. Michael's sterile processing partner, STERIS Corporation, in the form of a mobile MDRD on wheels. The mobile MDRD is a 53-foot expandable unit set up in a courtyard adjacent to the hospital. The unit is approximately 1,000 square feet of MDRD space when fully deployed. It is outfitted to accommodate up to eight staff and the hospital's daily volume of surgical instrument cleaning and sterilization using state-of-the-art washers and sterilizers.

"We have very high expectations and stringent requirements for sterile processing and infection control, and we were both familiar and comfortable with STERIS's mobile sterilization solutions unit," said Catherine Hogan, director of Perioperative Services at St. Michael's.

St. Michael's MDRD had to be fully renovated to meet CSA standards, but had no ability to expand or increase its footprint due to critical foundation walls lining the perimeter of the department. After considering outsourcing sterilization services and phased construction options, the cost and risk for continued operations and sterility assurance was deemed too high for either option, leaving the mobile facility as the best option.

"The mobile unit had to work to ensure we maintained the highest standards of patient care," Hogan said. "However, we truly went into it quite confident. We couldn't afford a disruption to our surgical schedule, and in the end, we have evidence that proves it worked exceedingly well."

STERIS has deployed its mobile units in dozens of hospitals throughout Canada and the U.S. during major construction projects like that at St. Michael's. This approach allows for single-phased construction without restricting designs, increasing risk of contamination, affecting surgical wait times, or sacrificing sterility assurance.

"Hospitals rely on their operating rooms to continue servicing their communities and providing the necessary surgical services needed for patients. It is critical to keep them supported during major construction projects such as MDRD renovations with properly reprocessed and sterilized instruments that can be used with confidence by surgeons," said Mark Munroe, STERIS's Vice President of Mobile Solutions.

“Our mobile units are proven to be reliable, compliant, and designed with best practice guidelines handling the volume demands of hospitals. Most important, they allow hospitals to tackle large renovation projects without the threat of service interruption. Projects are completed much faster, and in many cases, under budget.”

Once construction was completed, Hogan’s department moved into a new space, complete with state-of-the-art STERIS sterile processing equipment. The department, and the hospital, didn’t miss a beat and continued full operations of the surgical department as a result of using the mobile MDRD.

“With the experience and efficiencies our staff gained after working with the mobile unit, we’re confident we can continue performing at the highest level of patient care supporting our ORs,” Hogan said.

About St. Michael’s Hospital

St. Michael’s Hospital provides compassionate care to all who enter its doors. The hospital also provides outstanding medical education to future health care professionals in more than 23 academic disciplines. Critical care and trauma, heart disease, neurosurgery, diabetes, cancer care, and care of the homeless are among the Hospital’s recognized areas of expertise. Through the Keenan Research Centre and the Li Ka Shing International Healthcare Education Center, which make up the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, research and education at St. Michael’s Hospital are recognized and make an impact around the world. Founded in 1892, the hospital is fully affiliated with the University of Toronto.

About STERIS

The mission of STERIS is to help our Customers create a healthier and safer world by providing innovative healthcare and life science product and service solutions around the globe. The Company is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol STE. For more information, visit www.steris.com.

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