

Research Labs FES/APT

Cleveland, Ohio

PROJECT FACTS

Owner: Department of Veteran Affairs, Wade Park
Architect: Makovich & Pusti Architects
Location: Cleveland, Ohio
Construction Type: General Contractor

Building Area: 7,325 SF
Project Value: \$2.1 Million
Cost/SF: \$287
Completed: October 2008



KEY FEATURES

The FES (functional electrical stimulation) and APT (advanced platform technology) Research lab space is used by VA doctors as well as by neurology residents of Case Western Reserve University. As such, this project required collaboration with the two end-users. Turning the existing laboratories into a new Research department provided the project team an opportunity to work with many unique products. Two radio frequency enclosures were installed for research with patients that require the elimination of exterior radio wave interference. When the head of the department requested that one of the radio frequency enclosures be built with a radio wave eliminating curtain in lieu of a door, our project team was put to the test. By working with the Architect, investigating other departments and other hospitals, the team was able to come up with a fabric interwoven with copper wires. The electrician came up with a grounding system and the curtain is still effectively working three years later.

Prior to the tasks of the radio frequency enclosures and research for supplying power and water to other unique pieces of equipment, the space needed to be demolished. The project area was self contained after the infectious barrier was established with negative air; however, it was in the heart of the hospital basement. Through a delivery and debris removal plan that included the route, time of day, and follow up cleaning, the superintendent was able to complete the required work with minimal exposure to the hospital.

This project also proved to require a keen eye for possible environmental demolition concerns. Investigation of old laboratory sinks for mercury, and identification of asbestos insulation plus tile was required prior to working in this project. The project superintendent possessed the foresight to locate, identify, and schedule this work with as little impact to the project schedule and budget as possible. This project was completed three months ahead of schedule and relationships were built with the maintenance department, and the head of Infectious Control that have aided subsequent projects at the VA.

PROJECT REFERENCE:

Mike Molchan
Project Architect
440.891.8910

Steve Shyjka
VAMC COTR
216.791.3800 (ex. 4174)



There's a reason we've been in business for over 100 years