



The Blood Connection | Biologics Processing Center
 PIEDMONT, SOUTH CAROLINA

OVERVIEW

The Blood Connection is a premium provider of safe, cost-effective blood supplies and services for healthcare partners. Collecting, processing and distributing life-saving blood products for 150+ regional hospitals and multiple global biotech/pharmaceutical firms, the Blood Center decided to create a new, state-of-the-art biologics processing center to leverage evolving technologies and maintain their blood banking industry leadership.

WORKSPACE CHALLENGES

- Needed a facility that complied with all FDA and European regulations
- Required the capacity to triple blood components processing in 3-5 years
- Desire to leverage and implement lean manufacturing practices across all operations

SOLUTIONS

“The furniture for our new facility had to be truly modular and flexible, enabling constant updating of machines, technology, utilities and work cells. We visited several processing labs and manufacturers and decided to go with Modular Millwork,” said CEO Greg Hart. “We were investing millions of dollars in new testing and processing systems (G4 Compomats, Galileos, Prisms, Tigris, and more). Our lab furniture is a critical component to ensure efficient operation of these new systems. Modular Millwork proved to be the right choice. They worked closely with our team throughout the design phase to help us specify the proper bench and workstation setups for each processing system and work cell. The wide range of sizes and Catalyst workflow organizers made it easy for us to optimize the layout and productivity of every lab station in the facility,” continued Hart. “We included Modular Millwork’s bactericidal surfaces for all labs with blood components processing to give us an added germ barrier.”



MICROLAB WORKSTATIONS IN MAIN TEST LAB



HIGH-VOLUME PLASMA PROCESSING BENCHES

“Their structural frame system easily supports our heaviest processors, and the accessible utility chases let us easily update and change machines and workbench layouts as needed. Modular Millwork’s flexible format readily accommodates our diverse, ever-changing needs and is exceptionally durable, supporting our industrial processing volumes,” commented Jerry Calloway, Project Engineer. “We really like how the integrated chase manages all utilities inside the benches, keeping lab surfaces clutter-free and providing technicians maximum worksurface space for the transaction-intensive processing of blood components.”

“We love the Modular Millwork finishes. Plus, the ability to organize and adjust setups to individual preferences and processes is very effective for our technicians. The Catalyst system makes it easy for us to manage monitors, scanners, supplies, inventory, documentation, phones and everything else above the worksurfaces, all right at our fingertips. That really enhances comfort, workflow and overall lab productivity,” says Tracy Bridges, lab director.

OUTCOMES

- Designed efficient, flexible workstations to accommodate all types of machines, technology, utilities and processes
- Optimized and fully personalized workstations to drive productivity and comfort for lab technicians
- Incorporated “bactericidal surfaces” for all labs with blood components processing for protective germ barrier
- Implemented integrated chase system to house utilities and maintain clutter-free workspaces
- Integrated Catalyst vertical workspace tools to improve comfort and productivity



LAB ISLAND WITH INTEGRATED UTILITIES AT CELL WASHERS



HIGH-VOLUME CENTRIFUGES AT INTAKE/PREP LAB FOR TESTING



CATALYST WORKFLOW ORGANIZERS OPTIMIZE PRODUCTIVITY AND ERGONOMICS AT THE PLASMA PROCESSING STATIONS

“Modular Millwork’s 3D design-development support eliminated guesswork and enabled us to achieve unprecedented efficiency in our new lab.”

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