

Aesculap Service Systems Instrument Management

Customer report



MPAV (Medizinprodukteaufbereitung Vorarlberg),
Rankweil

Instrument Management

Think Aesculap. Think Service.



A new age of sterile supply has dawned for Medizinprodukte-aufbereitung Vorarlberg GmbH (MPAV), the medical products processing specialists in the Austrian town of Rankweil. MPAV, which has been operating with great success since February 2007, will take over the processing of sterile materials for the regional hospitals in the federal state of Vorarlberg and for nearby hospitals in the neighboring regions of Germany, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. This will be a masterstroke of logistics meeting the most exacting demands on processing quality.

Control and administration with instacount®

The capacities at MPAV are designed for processing 150,000 sterile supply items per year. Presently, MPAV – a company established conjointly by Krankenhaus-Betriebsgesellschaft mbH and SteriLog Instrumentenmanagement GmbH – provides services for the hospitals of Feldkirch, Hohenems and Bludenz. With this, the capacity

utilization of MPAV is already economically efficient, and will soon be further enhanced by contracts with other hospitals and medical practices.

It took three years, from tendering, through planning and implementation, to the official opening of this "green-field" central sterilization facility. To guarantee the provision of high-quality, comprehensive sterile supply services and, at the same time, operate as a profit center, MPAV uses the latest technologies and works with experienced international partners. For the area of process optimization, the company decided to work with SteriLog. The instacount® PLUS instrument management system was installed as the central software for the documentation and standardization of the pre-defined processes.

The official start-up of the new production facility took place at a ceremony on 9 February 2007, in the presence of distinguished representatives from politics and business. Since then, Stefan Kornmayer, the General Manager

of MPAV, has ensured the smooth operation and administration of the company. His principal tool for achieving this success has been instacount® PLUS. This software solution,

where it is registered into instacount® PLUS by a bar code scanner. From there, the instrument management software channels the contaminated sterile material, according to pa-



which is used in many countries around the globe, is accessed through 25 distributed workstations throughout the instrument cycle.

For process control, MPAV can rely on the simple and logical user guidance provided by instacount®. The contaminated sterile materials are received at the incoming goods station,

parameters set by operatives, through the washing machines to the packing station and sterilization. The release of the decontaminated sterile materials and their allocation to the individual client stores is documented and made reproducible by instacount® PLUS through just a few scans. The sterile supply cycle back to the O.R. stores of the respective hospital is com-



pleted by the variable-use instacount.PROCESS module. Stefan Kornmayer explains: "Through PROCESS we can install any number of checkpoints in our instrument cycle, just as required. For instance, at one checkpoint MPAV passes the sterile materials to the transport agent. The cycle is closed when the materials are received at another checkpoint at the hospital, and then returned to MPAV after their use. Every individual step is recorded through scanning, which allows easy tracking of every sterile item though the entire instrument cycle."

From cost center to profit center

One step in the transition to pro-

fit center status is the central management of the replacement reserves for all hospitals operated by Vorarlberger Krankenhaus-Betriebsgesellschaft. In the new setup, only one store is required to make provisions for repairs and wastage. Consequently, much fewer replacement instruments need to be kept in stock.

The instacount® data base documents the individual processing steps. The process data are accessed via Crystal Report, which is installed as standard and enables users to generate additional statistics, beyond the existing reports, according to specific criteria. In this way, MPAV created accurate client-by-client monthly accounts. The

costs to be accounted to each cost center are now determined per set and per month. "From my point of view, the evaluations according to costs, volumes and time periods are particularly important for process control and reimbursement and thus for the correct management of our enterprise. The interface to Crystal Reports gives me instant access to the entire data base of instacount® PLUS.

In a way, MPAV presents a glimpse of the future. Mainly for reasons of efficiency and costs, hospitals increasingly outsource sterile processing and integrate it in independent units. On this background, and particularly in the delicate context of sterile surgical materials, it is of outstanding importance to provide a complete and continuous image of all processes, so that traceability is maintained for critical situations. With two or more contract partners, the performance-related accounting of processing services provided is another focus of attention. For both tasks, MPAV confidently relies on instacount®.

Dipl. KH-BW Harald Maikisch, Managing Director of Vorarlberger Krankenhaus-Betriebsgesellschaft, on the synergy effects achieved with instacount® PLUS:

For a company like MPAV, transparency regarding the volumes and workflow of the medical products is an extremely important factor. This was a major motivation for us to standardize operations and benefit from synergy effects. Another essential point was, of course, to generate data on which to base fair and closely calculated cost accounts.

Facts and figures of MPAV

- Single-story industrial unit with an effective floor space of 13,455 sq.ft. (1,250 sqm) and a gross volume of 8,500 sqm
- Partition into administration and social (20 %), production (55 %) and technical (25 %) tracts
- Annual capacity: 150,000 sterilization units
- 30 Staff for operation at full capacity
- 8 Cleaning and disinfecting machines
- 2 Sterilizers
- 1 Container and cart washing plant





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