



Case Study

The Nebraska Medical Center Completes \$7.3 Million Renovation of its Clarkson Tower Adult Intensive Care Unit

Control Services, Inc. of Omaha handled system integration for new patient room IP cameras and access control card readers to provide additional security and safety for the facility and its patients

The heart of any medical center is its intensive care unit, which maintains constant care and observation of its critically ill and traumatized patients. It is imperative that these patients have 24/7 care and immediate access to the best medical staff and treatments available.

The \$7.3 million renovation of the third floor Clarkson Tower Intensive Care Unit is but the first phase of a more complete remodel of the three intensive care units located at The Nebraska Medical Center. The 15,880 square foot renovations consist of the modernization of 13 intensive care patient rooms, more comfortable waiting areas and a decentralized central nurse's station into several work areas located outside the patient rooms.

Control Services, Inc. of Omaha, Nebraska coordinated the installation of 13 high-resolution Axis IP cameras with night vision capabilities and several card access readers throughout the intensive care unit. Each patient room has a motion-sensitive camera with PTZ capabilities that can automatically record up to 24 hours of video using Milestone recording software.

The cameras are networked to monitoring locations on the floor so that all patients can be seen at one glance, and to a back-up monitoring station for additional 24 hour recording and observation. Each AXIS camera is equipped with night vision, which was essential to providing secure monitoring when the patient rooms were dark.

The card reader access control devices manage access to the floor and all patient rooms and work areas. In addition, access control card readers are installed on all patient room medicine disbursement wall cabinets and can be opened from either side of the wall. This custom feature creates a secure medicine storage facility for each room and a formal record of the name and time of anyone entering the patient medication cabinets.

"Our goal is to create technology enriched intensive care units where our patients can receive the best care possible," said Chad Kruse, Project Leader for The Nebraska Medical Center. "We are very pleased with the work done by Control Services and will continue to look at ways that we can provide more efficient and effective care giving environments."

“The individual room cameras have significantly improved our ability to monitor patients at anytime of the day or night,” said Sandy Crites, Manager of The Nebraska Medical Center Adult Intensive Care Unit. “In an intensive care unit, everything is critical and the new technology we are deploying creates a more efficient medical facility and allows the staff to better manage its time.”

“In addition, our decision to decentralize our traditional nurse’s station for individual work stations located outside the patient’s room has proven to be a real time saver and allows for more direct caregiver to patient communication,” said Sandy Crites.

“The intensive care unit renovation presented a couple of unique challenges that we were able to work through with the help of the local building contractor and our own equipment suppliers,” said Phil Fenton, Security Manager for Control Services, Inc. “The dual-side wall medicine disbursement cabinets were unusual in that they required card reader access from both sides of the wall. This required custom sliding-door cabinets to be built and special card readers to be installed.”

“The Axis high-resolution, motion-sensitive, night-vision IP cameras also were a special order, but we had no problem integrating them and the Milestone recording software into the surveillance and monitoring system,” said Phil Fenton.

About Control Services, Inc.

Control Services Inc. (www.controlservicesomaha.com) is a major independent technology-based facility automation contractor providing integrated facility management, environment control, access, security, and nurse call. Control Services Inc. provides complete turnkey services including design, installation, planning, maintenance and services for commercial, industrial and institutional markets.

About The Nebraska Medical Center

With a reputation for excellence, innovation and extraordinary patient care, The Nebraska Medical Center has earned the J.D. Power and Associates’ Hospital of Distinction award for inpatient services for four consecutive years. It is a US News & World Report 2008 “Best Hospital” for Cancer, Neurology and Neurosurgery. It also received the 2009 Consumer Choice Award, a mark of patient satisfaction as selected by healthcare consumers and has achieved Magnet recognition status for nursing excellence, Thomson Reuters 100 Top Hospitals Performance Improvement Leader recognition, as well as the Award of Progress from the state of Nebraska’s Edgerton Quality Awards Program. As the teaching hospital for the University of Nebraska Medical Center, this 624 licensed bed academic medical center has an international reputation for providing solid organ and bone marrow transplantation services and is well known nationally and regionally for its oncology, neurology and cardiology programs. The Nebraska Medical Center can be found online at www.nebraskamed.com

Contact: Phil Fenton, Sales Manager, Control Services, Inc., p402-339-4344, f 402-339-4139

