

I HEARD IT
THROUGH THE

STEAMLINE

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION FOR HOSPITAL CENTRAL SERVICE PERSONNEL

NCAHCSP

**INVITES YOU TO
ATTEND THE
ANNUAL MEETING
IN RALEIGH**

**ON MAY 5, 6 & 7,
1993**

**OUR THEME IS:
"LOBBYING FOR
CHANGE"**

**REGISTER
EARLY!**



COST AND BENEFIT STUDIES

DO THEY SHOW THE TOTAL PICTURE?

"Take a look at reusable surgery gowns and drapes and see if we can save so money by switching from disposables."

How many of us have heard statements similar to this from our bosses lately? If you have heard this and decided to do a system and cost study, you might have forgotten some very important considerations. When doing a system and cost study, always start with an outline and decide what materials you want to present and in what order.

I wanted to show my boss more than just cost, so my outline consisted of: aseptic technique justification, balance of properties needed for an aseptic barrier, replacement cost, laundering cost, processing cost, sterilization load cost, cost comparison of reusable-disposable, sterilizer cycle expense, environmental impact and the construction cost of a sterile pack room.

Now that you have an outline of what you want to present, you need to research the subject and come up with support documentation. A likely place to start looking for material is your AHEC or hospital library. Ask them to do a search for you through their computer system for current articles written on the subject. You can also make phone calls to your peers and find out if they or someone they know have done the same study. It would save a lot of time for you to borrow materials. The

product manufacturer can also be a valuable source for current information. Local and national professional societies offer a lot of knowledge and are an excellent starting point for a cost and system study. They can provide you with regional costs for running a sterilizer load or cost per pound to launder a reusable gown. So be sure to tap into this resource.

Now you have collected pertinent materials. Review the material and pull out the information needed using your outline as a guide. After that you just have to compile the information into a presentation form. Always remember that the cost quoted to you by the sales representative is very rarely the true cost of a product. So, to present a true analysis of cost of a product, use all your resources and factor in all costs, such as cost purchasing, storing, etc.

A good cost / benefit system study can show cost and benefits that most people never consider when switching products. Do your homework and make educated decisions based on your research and cost / benefit studies.

By: VIRGINIA COFFEY



CONGRATULATIONS!

We have recently been advised that Kurt Emmrich has received two awards from Intermetro Industries Corporation. In his first year in management with Intermetro, Kurt achieved the distinction of being number one in sales in both Healthcare and Commercial Divisions. Cullen Fisher, Kurt's Territory Manager, tells us that no one can remember any other person achieving this recognition. All of us in the NCAHCSP are proud of our long relationship with Kurt, and we've always known he is an exceptional person.



LIGHTEN UP YOU MAY LIVE LONGER

What's the difference between government bonds and men?
Government bonds mature.

If you laugh easily at jokes, or laugh a lot at life, you may not only feel happier, but be healthier too.

A spate of new studies are demonstrating the healing powers of laughter. Researchers at Stanford University Medical School, for instance, contend that 20 seconds of belly laughter is roughly equivalent

to three minutes of strenuous rowing: It speeds up heart and respiration rates, and gives stomach muscles a workout to boot. People with a good sense of humor also handle stress the best, say researchers at the University of Waterloo in Ontario.

What do you call 50 lawyers at the bottom of the ocean?
A good start.

In fact, he who laughs loudest may actually, live longer. No joke. A recent study suggests that responses to humor may help lower high blood pressure and bolster the immune system: Laughing at a comedian's jokes during a one-hour video altered subjects body chemistry so that their blood pressure was reduced, their heart rates were lowered and their moods were elevated, according to researchers at Loma Linda University School of Medicine and School of Public Health in California. What's more, their levels of cortisol, a hormone that is linked to stress, dropped allowing their immune systems to function more efficiently.

What did God say after He created man?
I can do better than this.

For suggestions on how to add more humor to your daily life an organization called The HUMOR Project offers help and even conducts seminars. Send a self-addressed stamped (\$0.98) envelope to: The HUMOR Project, Dept. SE, 110 Spring St., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

Dawn Welch
From: Self Dec. 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to congratulate and welcome the new Officers and Board Members.

The Annual Meeting, May 6 & 7, 1993, is shaping up very nicely and I hope all of you are making plans to attend. The brochures and information are included with this newsletter.

Since this is my last President's message I would like to say how much I've enjoyed serving as your President. There has been a lot of hard work, but the rewards have been many. Seeing the increase in membership has been the greatest reward. During my first term as President, we exceeded the goal of 200. When I made the goal of 300 this term, it seemed an impossible dream, but one which was realized. None of the rewards could have been reached without the endeavors of the Officers, Board of Directors and more importantly the Membership -- THANK YOU.

My appreciation also is extended to those who have served as Board Members and Officers during my terms as Board Member, President-elect and President. All of you made my term easy and I thank you very much for your support and understanding.

Thanks to all of you forgiving me the opportunity to serve this great Association. Farewell

Mary C. Robinson
President

Announcing

NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President-elect

- Frank Sizemore - North Carolina Baptist Hospitals, Inc.
- Manager - Central Service
 - BS degree in Business Administration, High Point University
 - 9 years' experience in CS
 - International Technician Certification in 1990
 - Member of ASHCSP and IAHCSMM

Secretary

- Linda Messick - North Carolina Baptist Hospitals, Inc.
- Senior Secretary - CS
 - 10years in Central Service
 - Merit Award Winner - 1990
 - National Technician Certification - 1992
 - Member of ASHCSP

Board of Directors

- Janet Aultman - North Carolina Baptist Hospitals, Inc.
- -Assistant Manager - CS
 - BS degree in Biology - UNC-CH
 - 2 years' experience in CS
 - National Technician Certification in 1991
 - Member of ASHCSP

BOARDMEMBERS (cont.)

Ruby Blackwell, RN – Forsyth Memorial Hospital

- Director - CPD
- 10 years' experience in CS
- Member of ASHCSP, AAMI and American Nursing Assn.

Virginia Coffey, RN - Rowan Memorial Hospital

- Supervisor - CPS
- 10 years' experience in CS
- Member of ASHCSP and IAHCSMM
- Region 3 Board Member of ASHCSP
- Past-President - NCAHCSP

Linda Rudeseal - Central Carolina Hospital

- Supervisor - SPD
- President – Employee Assistance Program
- International Technician Certification - 1 986
- 11 years' experience in CS
- Member of ASHCSP and IAHCSMM

Bernie Isgett - Durham Regional Hospital

- Administrative Director - Supply Services
- 3 years' experience in CS
- 15 years' experience in Surgical Service
- Member of ASHCSP

Congratulations and many successes during your term of office!

ETO QUIZ

???

1. Ethylene Oxide (ETO) is a toxic substance.

- a. True
- b. False

2. Over - exposure to ETO can result in:

- a. Cancer
- b. Reproductive Problems
- c. Mutations
- d. Central Nervous System and neurological problems
- e. All of the above

3. If you are at work and begin having headaches, breathing difficulty, nausea, skin burns, or irritation of the eyes, nose or throat. you should:

- a. Ask to go home early, as you are likely getting the flu.
- b. Report your symptoms immediately to your supervisor, as you may have been exposed to ETO.
- c. Do nothing. While you may have been exposed, once the ETO is out of the air, you will do fine.

4. An employee is not to be exposed to an air concentration of ETO greater than _____ as an 8-hour Time Weighted Average - (TWA). This is the permissible exposure limit set by OSHA.

- a. 1000 ppm
- b. 500 ppm
- c. 1 ppm

ETO QUIZ (cont.)

5. The action level, or Short Term Excursion Limit (STEL), also set by OSHA, is 5 ppm averaged over a 15 minute TWA.

- a. True
- b. False

6. Monitoring of ETO levels:

- a. is voluntary and may vary from one hospital to the next, as hospitals set their own exposure limits.
- b. is only done by hospitals that are conducting ETO research.
- c. Is an important safety practice for all healthcare institutions to determine levels exposure for employees and to know how to respond when exposure limits are exceeded.

7. If you can smell ETO in your work area.:

- a. You have been overexposed, because in order to smell ETO, the threshold must reach 500-700 ppm.
- b. Leave the work area immediately.
- c. Initiate the emergency plan.
- d. All of the above.

8. As part of any ETO emergency plan you should:

- a. Leave the area immediately.
- a. b, Secure the entrances to the area.
- b. Notify supervisory / safety personnel
- c. All of the above.
- d. None of the above.

9. ETO is or has the potential to be:

- a. Combustible
- b. Flammable
- c. Both a and b
- d. Neither a or b

10. When taking gas-sterilized items from the sterilizer to the aerator, pushing the load is best.

- a. True
- b. False

11. To be fully aerated, items can sit in the sterilizer with the door fully open for 2 minutes with a fan blowing cool air on them.

- a. True
- b. False

12. If pressed for space, ETO could be stored in the supervisors' office, the employee lounge or restrooms.

- a. True
- b. False

13. What chemical by-product is formed when ETO comes in contact with water? _____

14. What chemical by-product is formed when ETO comes in contact with chlorine such as might be present in body fluids? _____

ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ WILL
APPEAR IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

By: Mary Jo Perkins,
NC Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem

Happy Easter





**MEMORIAL
TRIBUTE**

Shirley H. Holloman
C.S.P.D.T.
Presbyterian Hospital
Charlotte, NC

February 22, December 12,
1947 1992
Buckhorn, NC Charlotte, NC

How can the sun, shining so brightly,
have gone from day to night so
suddenly?

Shirley was like the sun to all she
encountered. Her smile radiated and
warmed the hearts of everyone she
came in contact with. To know
Shirley was to love Shirley, she had a
heart of gold.

Shirley was a very caring, loving
person at home, work and church. She
was very energetic, dependable and
always willing to lend a helping
hand to anyone. She participated in
all departmental functions and
supported any changes in the
department. One of the highlights of
her life was to attend the NCAHCSP
meetings. She was thrilled to be a
part of the organization and loved
meeting people from other hospitals.
She was always eager to find out
what other CS Departments were
doing and how they were doing it.
Shirley was eager for new ideas for
her work area.

She loved her co-workers and often
didn't understand why some would
not say good morning or good
afternoon. She loved her family
dearly, but most of all, Shirley loved
Christ, who was the center of her life.
We can learn so much from her. We
can learn love, peace, humility,
patience, faith and kindness.

Words could never fully describe
Shirley and how she touched the
lives of so many people. If only I
could hear her voice once more, see
her smile once more, sit and talk with
her once more, to have the opportunity to
thank her for all that she has done. The
sun is still shining in our hearts with fond
memories of Shirley. The only difference
now is Shirley is sharing some of that
sun with Christ.

By: Sylvia Soles

News

BITS

1. The growth of spending on
Medical devices slowed during
1992. The Department of Commerce
report shows that spending increased
5.6% in 1992, compared with 8.7% in
1991.

Source: Materials Management in
Healthcare Jan. 1993

NEWS BITS (cont.)

2. Hospitals that use sterilant gases will receive a one year reprieve from the tax increase on chlorofluorocarbons, thanks to an amendment to the Energy Strategy bill passed by Congress in late 1992. In 1994, the tax will jump to \$4.35 for all users and sellers.

Source: Materials Management in
Healthcare Jan. 1993

3. A task force of Minnesota health executives say careful evaluation of medical technologies could cut health care costs. Evaluations should include safety and clinical effectiveness. For a copy of the task force report call (612) 542-3077.

Source: Materials Management in
Healthcare Jan. 1993

4. Health associations are now eligible for discounts and savings of up to 44% for overnight express shipping through Airborne Express, Seattle.

Source: Materials Management in
Healthcare Jan. 1993

5. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) stepped up enforcement efforts by sending 345 warning letters to device manufacturers in the first six months of 1992 - a huge jump from 1991, when only 59 letters were sent.

Source: Materials Management in
Healthcare Jan. 1993

6. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, and the Occupational Safety and Health

Administration, Washington, DC, will issue a joint advisory notice about tuberculosis infection controls.

Source: Materials Management in
Healthcare Jan. 1993

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Keith Coffey
Asst. Director SPD
Grace Hospital
Morganton, NC

Verleen Gregory, LPN
OR and Central Service
Cannon Memorial Hospital
Banner Elk, NC

Barry Joseph Lee
Sterile Supply
Rex Hospital
Raleigh, NC

Karl Mosbacher
Senior Specialist
Materials Services
Sun Health
Charlotte, NC

Bessie Lee Springs
Central Service Technician
Central Service Department
Carolinas Medical Center
Charlotte, NC

Best Wishes to Herbert Erwin who retired after 45 years of service to Grace Hospital in Morganton North Carolina.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

For 1993 we have 97 members. If you haven't joined for 1993, please take a moment to do so. Last year we completed the year with a record high in membership of over 300. Help us to accomplish that this year. Applications for 1993 were mailed with the November newsletter or call Linda Messick at 919-716-4891 if you need one.



TREASURER'S REPORT

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Account Balance (11-1-92) | \$ 11,301.92 |
| Deposits | 1,857.00 |
| Checks | 8,434.22 |
| Balance (1-12-93) | \$ 9,724.70 |

POSITION VACANCY

Mercy Hospital, Charlotte, NC

Central Processing Supervisor

Essential Duties:

- Supervision of assembly, cleaning, sterilization, packaging, issuing, routine repair and maintenance of sterile and non-sterile medical supplies and equipment
- In-service and education of personnel
- Monitor all tests on sterilizing equipment and personnel

- Maintain all records required for JACHO and hospital
- Budgeting

Qualifications:

- High School graduate
- 2 years supervisory experience in a hospital setting
- In-depth knowledge of Principles and Techniques of Sterilization
- Management and Leadership skills
- Verbal and written skills

Anyone interested in the listed position can contact:
W. Lee Pritchard, Asst. Dir. Materials Management / SPD (704) 879-5992

ASHCSP---REGION 3

We are entering a new year offering tremendous challenges and excellent opportunities for growth. The ASHCSP Board of Directors' continued goal is to provide that opportunity for society members. One way ASHCSP does this is offering the APEX (ACTIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE) program for society members. This program was developed to recognize the professional contribution and achievement of Central Service professionals. You may contact me or your society office for applications and more details.

The 1993 annual meeting plans are progressing and another quality program will be offered. The dates for the meeting are October 24-27, 1993, at the Galt House. It is a gracious older hotel located on the Ohio River in Louisville, Kentucky.

REGION 3 REPORT (cont.)

Attending a seminar of this quality is an excellent way to continue your professional growth. I hope you plan to attend. If I can assist you with ASHCSP concerns, please contact me.

Virginia Coffey
ASHCSP Board of Directors
704-638-1009

STEAMLINE EDITORIAL BOARD

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Supv. Central Processing
Rowan Memorial Hospital
Salisbury, N.C. 28144

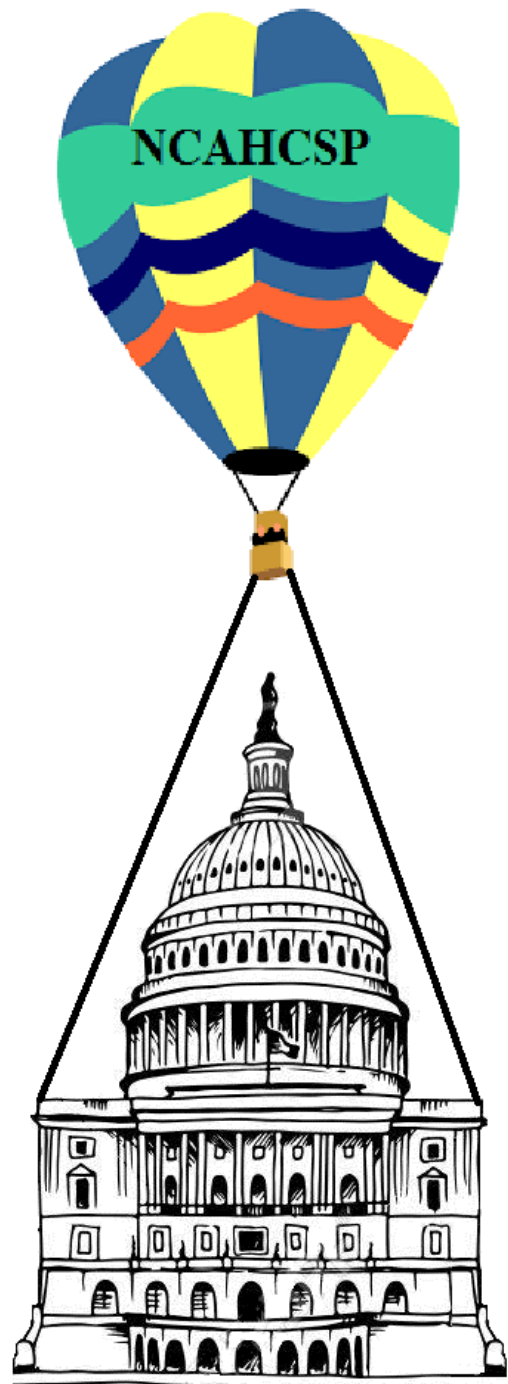
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Frank Sizemore
Manager of Central Service
N. C. Baptist Hospital
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27103

Carl L. Winge
Manager Central Service
Carolinas Medical Center
Charlotte, N.C. 28203

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDE:

- Future Program Information
- Seminar Registration Form
- Golf Tournament Registration



**JOIN US
FOR AN UPLIFTING
EXPERIENCE
IN THE CAPITOL**