

Dear CirculAire Subscribers,

Safety and **Innovation** are two of Air Liquide's guiding principles. With over ¼ billion dollars invested annually in R&D, and averaging a new patent application every day of the year, Air Liquide affiliates around the world take great pride in delivering new products and services, always striving to help our customers achieve their goals, never compromising safety.

In this edition of CirculAire we highlight four new offers borne out of our commitment to Safety and Innovation. And as you'll see, this dedication is shared by our business partners and key customers.

We also take this opportunity to re-introduce the **Air Liquide Medical** (aka ALMED) brand to Canada! In alignment with Air Liquide's healthcare operations around the world, the VitalAire brand will be reserved for homecare activities, and all institutional medical gas services will be offered under the Air Liquide Medical moniker. Join us at CHES National 2009 in St. John's, September 20-22, where we officially unveil our new logo!

We hope you enjoy this edition, and as always, welcome your feedback.

Best Regards,



Paul Edwards

VP, Sales, Marketing, & Business Development

ARE WE READY?

That's the quintessential question behind every Emergency Preparedness Plan. And ever since the WHO raised the H1N1 flu pandemic designation to level 6, Canadian healthcare facilities have been asking themselves just that; *are we ready?*



The *Canadian Pandemic Influenza Plan for the Health Sector* provides high level guidance to all Provinces and Territories for the development of their regional Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery plans. But it's not just the flu we need to prepare for. What about road closures due to fires, floods, ice storms, earthquake, avalanche, and other natural disasters? Or perhaps your supply chain depends on access to your facility via a bridge or tunnel. How would ensure the safe supply of oxygen for your patients if regular delivery was compromised for an extended period of time? In the United States, the Joint Commission's emergency management standard EC.4.12 EP 6 requires each healthcare facility have an emergency operation plan identifying the organization's capabilities and a 96 hour sustainability plan in the event of normal supply chain disruption.

At VitalAire, we have a pandemic plan designed to maintain production and distribution of medical gases, and we are meeting with our customers to see how we can help with their emergency preparedness plans. It is through this commitment that we learned most facilities do not have an adequate emergency supply of portable oxygen and suction. To help close

this gap, we developed a new product call the **Emergency SUPPO₂RT Cart**.

Each VitalAire **Emergency Preparedness SuppO₂rt Cart** includes a steel cage on casters, 55 steel oxygen cylinders (size 5), and the delivery devices you request.

Part Number	Steel Cage	55 Oxygen Cylinders	10 x 0-15 lpm regulators	10 x Venturi Back-Pack Assemblies*
EPSC-1	✓	✓	✓	
EPSC-2	✓	✓		✓
EPSC-3	✓	✓	✓	✓

* Each Venturi Back-Pack assembly includes a pre-set 50 psi regulator, Venturi Back-Pack, and Amvex VRC3TDHA suction regulator. Custom configurations available upon request.

The flu season hits in the spring and in the fall. Earthquakes, floods and wild-fires happen at any time. Are you ready!!

Article by Doug Colbert, Medical Gas Sales Consultant, Western Canada.

“We have a small issue raised by the hospital; we are hoping you can help?”

[Ron Forsyth, Ellis-Don Construction, Edmonton]

With the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute project in its final stages of construction and going through final checks during commissioning, the hospital maintenance staff requested the dual line regulating station for oxygen service be upgraded to include lockable valves. The question was raised, is it possible to upgrade the existing valves without interrupting flow of gas, meaning can it be done while the pipeline is active? The answer is **YES**. By using the innovative JRA locking device, designed and patented by a long time VitalAire customer, standard medical gas valves may be inexpensively, and most importantly safely, upgraded to locking style valves without shutting down the pipeline. The ingeniously designed JRA locking device installs simply by removing the valve handle, inserting the JRA locking device and re-installing the valve handle.

“These locking devices appear very beefy and slick to install just a couple of minutes per valve on the existing PR station valves and the locking device holes mated perfectly with the Amico valve handles. Also the price was right..... Thanx Ron”



BEFORE

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With JRA Plate Installed

Article by Sheldon Ferguson, Medical Gas Systems Sales Consultant, Alberta.

Space Solutions

In today's world of doing more with less, hospital design consultants are constantly charged with fitting more equipment in less and less space. A classic example is wall space management. At some point every mechanical engineer is faced with the problem of locating a medical gas piping zone valve box and alarm panel in a wall already congested with other mechanical pipes and electrical services.

In such cases the real challenge is not finding enough wall space to situate the zone valve box itself, but rather accommodating the incoming and outgoing medical gas pipes that loop to and from the ceiling. The typical "exposed wall width" for a three valve box (ie 1/2" Oxygen, 1/2" Medical Air and 3/4" Vacuum) is 305mm (12"). What you don't see is the additional 305mm of space required in-wall on both sides of the box for the pipes. Thus to install this box you typically must find 915mm (36") of free wall space.

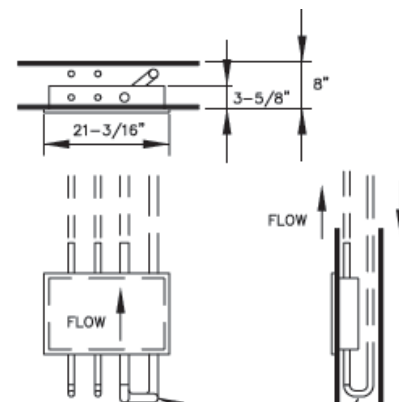
VitalAire was recently asked for help with a wall space challenge on a project in Hamilton. The design consultant asked if we could come up with a vertically orientated zone valve box with integrated local alarm panel to fit an extremely tight inner wall space. . "We had a very tight wall space to work with, and a traditional zone valve box and alarm system simply would not work. VitalAire listened to our needs and came back with a very effective solution!" (Don Brown of Vanderwesten Rutherford Mantecon)

Working with Amico's design team we had a working mock-up and technical data sheet within three days, providing a timely solution to the problem, and a new product to offer the market at large.

VitalAire is pleased to present the VAVCU; *vertical alarm valve combo unit!*



The vertically piped design saves inner wall space making it easier to locate the valve box and local alarm in areas of high interference. A typical 3-gas valve box can now be installed in as little as 538mm (21-3/16") of wall space.



Yet another example of VitalAire working hard to be Canada's *Company of Reference* for medical gases and gas systems.

Article by Eric Champion, Medical Gas Systems Sales Consultant, Ontario.

Another first from Amico!

Ceiling arms and patient lifts; two moving objects that share the same ceiling space in most ICU designs. Laying out these conflicting systems is a real architectural challenge, and more importantly, the safe use of both tools is practically impossible!

Through keen attention to customer needs, the design team at Amico Clinical developed the world's only ceiling arm with integrated patient lift!

Talk to your local VitalAire sales consultant today to learn more about this Canadian innovation!



CSA UPDATE

The latest edition of CSA's medical gas pipeline Standard, CAN/CSA Z7396.1-09, Medical gas pipeline systems – Part 1: Pipelines for medical gases and vacuum, is now available at www.shopcsa.ca.

Contact your local Medical Gas Systems Sales Consultant to learn more about this Standard.

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