

Project Data

Construction: \$50,000,000+

Size: 500,000+ sf

Span: 1983 – current

Owner

Mercy Hospital

Iowa City, Iowa

Joe Brinson

Assistant Director of Engineering

(319) 339-3585

Team

Principal in Charge

Amy Infelt, PE, LEED AP

Project Manager

Amy Infelt, PE, LEED AP

Mechanical Engineer

Kevin Kurka, PE, LEED AP

Electrical Engineer

David E Shelley, PE

Architect of Record

Rohrbach Associates PC

Iowa City, Iowa

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Spotlighting a highly-collaborative and client-focused process spanning over 180 projects, the comprehensive expansion and renovation of this facility was coordinated to maintain operation during construction, including work required in the OR suite and ECU areas. All work was designed to FGI Guidelines standards.

The multi-phase comprehensive expansion and renovation of the Emergency Care Unit, Maternal Child and Radiology Departments began in 2000, with additional project since that time including the installation of a new chiller with a remote sump storage tank, a chilled water study, replacement of the existing boilers, fire alarm system upgrade, single-bed conversions, numerous air handling unit replacement and sterilization, OR and endoscopy renovations. These projects have been consistently implemented in a way that maintains continuous operation of the facility during construction.

The key to any successful phasing plan is the detailed knowledge of the existing systems since the phasing out of the existing systems is as important as the phasing in of the new systems.

As new systems are brought on line and existing systems are removed from service, both will typically be required to operate at partial capacity. For airside HVAC systems, this may require the installation of temporary bypass ducts to allow air handling units to operate at an airflow below the minimum speed allowed by the variable frequency drive. Similarly, hydronic systems may require the installation of temporary bypass piping to facilitate the operation of circulating pumps at a volume below the minimum speed of the variable frequency drive.

Provisions may also be required to maintain existing systems in operation after a portion of the system is removed from service and in some cases, temporary services may be required to refeed existing distribution systems in specific areas during the phasing process.