

# Putnam County Memorial Hospital Find SDS Management Cost Savings With VelocityEHS



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Lisa Schmidt

Director of Purchasing

Putnam County Memorial Hospital

## Putnam County Memorial Hospital

- A 25-bed acute care facility
- Serving the Northern Missouri and Southern Iowa community since 1963
- Using VelocityEHS Chemical Management since 2011

**P**utnam County Memorial Hospital in Unionville, Missouri — located near the border of Missouri and Iowa — has been serving the medical needs of their local population since 1963. The acute care facility features 25 beds; 15 beds on the med surge floor and 10 beds in a behavioral health unit. The hospital features ER, Lab, Radiology, Respiratory, Physical Therapy, Cardiac rehab/stress testing, and outpatient procedures/surgery departments, as well as an outpatient psychiatric service called Senior Life Solutions.

Also associated with the hospital are a Specialty Clinic, a Rural Health Clinic and a downtown Physician Clinic. Bringing all of these services to a small community gives the hospital a unique set of challenges. To keep its mission of service alive, Putnam County Memorial Hospital must manage costs wherever possible and streamline work for its employees.

Lisa Schmidt has been the hospital's director of purchasing for the past five

years. Shortly after coming aboard, she realized adopting VelocityEHS Chemical Management could help create cost savings as well as improve the hospital's management of safety data sheets.

"We're a small acute care facility providing services to a rural farming community," explains Mrs. Schmidt. "We're essential to this area. Vital. We save lives. But in order for us to continue to do that, it's critical that we run efficiently. Every penny counts."

In researching a cloud-based EHS solutions provider, Mrs. Schmidt discovered that the services offered by VelocityEHS could contribute to the hospital's goals in more than one way.

"A few years ago, I was looking at ways to improve our safety data sheet management," says Mrs. Schmidt. "Everyone wears more than one hat here, and managing our paper binders full of SDS sheets had become overwhelming. Keeping those sheets up-to-date by hand was something I just couldn't afford to

devote so much time to. When I found VelocityEHS, I realized it would streamline our SDS management, and also free me up to do tasks more critical to our organization."

Mrs. Schmidt was able to make the case to her supervisor. After implementing VelocityEHS Chemical Management, Putnam County Hospital was able to realize time-savings that translated into cost-saving for their operations.

"I was able to present [VelocityEHS Chemical Management] and it was purchased. We were able to use a grant to pay for part of it. It has been an excellent timesaver. Now with VelocityEHS Chemical Management, it's accurate, fast and our hospital is in compliance."

Mrs. Schmidt concludes by encouraging others in her situation to look at the "full picture" when making a decision about the value of a chemical management solutions provider.



"As the director of purchasing, I have to look at what we can afford, but also what we can't afford not to do. When I consider any new service, it's my job to evaluate all the different factors. I have to consider how benefits and expenses will align with our goals. We have to be streamlined. Any action we take here has to be worth the effort.

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## FEDERAL, STATE GRANTS CAN HELP BUSINESSES DEFRAY COSTS OF CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Non-profit organizations often face challenges when it comes to updating old processes and adopting new technologies. The resources needed to implement change can frequently be a barrier to that change. This is definitely true in the EHS space where ROI can be difficult to provide.

Nevertheless, many hospitals, schools, governmental agencies, municipalities and other NGOs have had success sparking technology advances with the assistance of grants, loans, and other benefits from governmental and/or foundation resources. Grant sizes, of course, can vary based on organization size, location, nonprofit status, and industry. In addition to providing funding, grants and other foundation money, when secured, can give your organization additional prestige, credibility, and public exposure.

A great place to start your search is online at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). Additionally, many states and local community organization have their own grants to help drive innovation and safety at the local level.

### Benefits of VelocityEHS Chemical Management

#### Millions of MSDSs at Your Fingertips

24/7 access to the industry's leading database of safety data sheets ensures your company's library is up-to-date and in compliance.

#### Simplify Compliance

Easy-to-use tools help you meet hazard communication requirements (OSHA / WHMIS / GHS), including hazard determination, right-to-know access, labeling, safe chemical handling, PPE, and more.

#### Improve Chemical Management

Robust chemical management tools provide greater container-level control over the location, status and risk associated with the chemicals you use. Our free mobile SDS/Chemical Management app lets you scan barcode/QR code labels for in-the-field container management.

#### Mobile Access

Our online accounts are mobile optimized, and our free SDS/Chemical Management app makes it possible to access SDSs and chemical inventory information offline, when internet connectivity is limited. With these mobile capabilities, critical chemical safety information is always at your fingertips.

#### Regulatory Compliant

Multiple back-up options mean your system meets OSHA, WHMIS and other regulatory requirements for electronic safety data sheet /chemical management.

#### Quick ROI & Low Cost of Ownership

VelocityEHS Chemical Management pays for itself by eliminating time-consuming, manual administrative tasks. Plus, there's no software to install or maintain, and you get immediate access to new features.

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