

## Sandwell & West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust selects NBC Decontainer™

### Objective

To reduce response times and contamination risks at Birmingham City Hospital by providing a full Mass Decontamination service prior to Self-Presenter treatment in the A&E Department.



### Problem

City Hospital, (like other city centre hospitals) faces specific risks given its proximity to high-risk sites in the City centre, including the Bull Ring, New Street Station, The International Convention Centre and the National Indoor Arena to name but a few.

All Trusts are required under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 to have a generic Major Incident Plan and cater for specific challenges such as CBRN-type events.

Provision for Mass Decontamination at the scene of a Major Incident is already made via the Fire & Rescue Service, but the Trust recognised that the Hospital faces the risk of Self-Presenters arriving from the scene in the 1-2 hours immediate uncontrolled aftermath of an incident.

Whilst audits confirmed that the Trust was already technically compliant using the Hospital's existing decontamination provision, certain risks remained.

In particular the deployment delays and limited throughput capacity of the current unit to deal with Self-Presenters posed both Business Continuity and operational issues that the Trust deemed should be addressed.

### Solution

City Hospital commissioned a configured solution provided by NBC Group to ensure Self-Presenters could be decontaminated within 5 minutes of arrival at A&E rather than the 20-45 minutes that would be required to deploy the 1<sup>st</sup> Generation Inflatable Decontamination equipment held by Acute Trusts since 2000.

In doing so, the Trust doubled its decontamination capacity to 48-80 patients per hour.

The Decontainer™ DC18 was adapted from a proven solution provided to NHS Scotland, but configured to deliver the capacity and flexibility required by the Trust.

Andy Dunn, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Manager for the Trust commented: "We came to NBC Group because we had a product in mind and no one else could help us. NBC listened and they designed a product that was fit for purpose, tweaked it to make it suitable and together we developed the appropriate bespoke product rather than something that was imposed on us."

## Now there's a better way

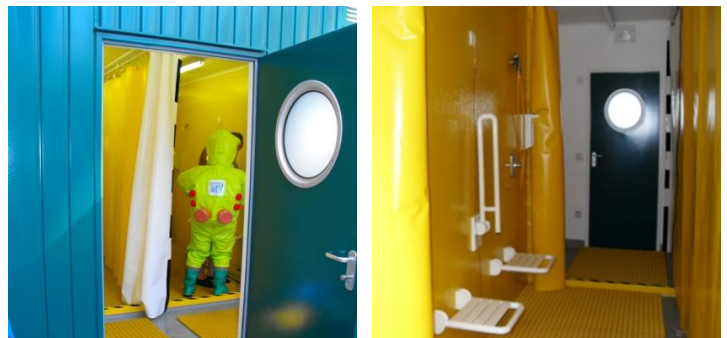


## System Design

The system is divided into three compartments; disrobe area, wet decontamination area and re-robe/check area.

## Major Benefits

- Speed of deploy - 1 person can make operational in less than 3 minutes
- Ease of use with minimal ongoing training requirements & can be patient-operated
- Clinical staff are free to deliver clinical care
- Instantly available, no heavy lifting involved/ no need for Manual Handling Equipment (MHE)
- Heated and illuminated patient modesty provision



## Integral System

- A fully functional system requiring just tempered water and a power source
- Minimum 10 year life expectancy and Service & Maintenance included for year 1
- Internal and external lighting included
- Internal heating and insulation included
- Waste water drain, pump and collection all included

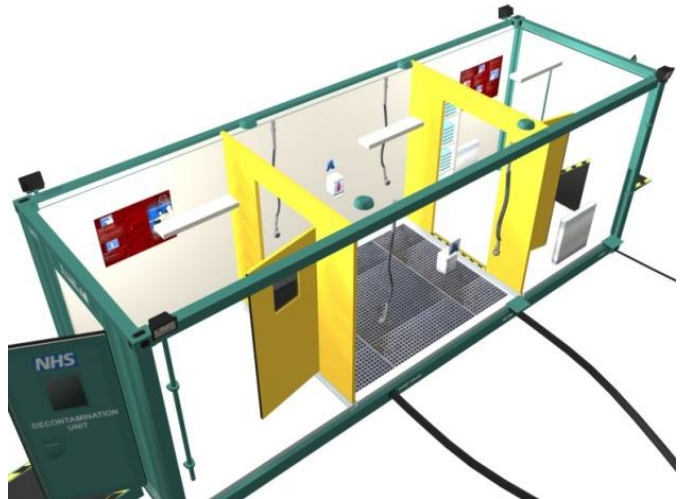
## City Hospital and Project Sea Lion

The Trust's resilience and preparedness were put to the test in a live exercise involving 112 ambulant and non-ambulant casualties. The A&E staff were able to effectively and efficiently decontaminate all adults and children as required.

A&E staff were happy with the layout and capacity of the Decontainer™, and in particular were pleased that to initiate the hospital decontamination procedure they literally only had to unlock the unit and provide services.

## Gold Standard

The NBC Decontainer™ is currently considered the Gold Standard for static emergency decontamination.



Unit	Purpose	Modesty Provision	Number of Showers	Working Space
DC 15	Static Decontamination Unit	Yes	4 Standard	15 m <sup>2</sup>
DC 18	2 Lane Static Decontamination Unit	Yes	4 Standard	18 m <sup>2</sup>
DC 30	Mass Static Decontamination Unit	Yes	6 Standard	30 m <sup>2</sup>

Available Options within the NBC Decontainer™ Range

## Certainty in an Uncertain World

