

SCIENTIFIC SAMPLE MANAGEMENT: CLINICAL BIOREPOSITORY SUCCESS STORY

SCIENTIFIC SERVICES ENABLE BIOREPOSITORY'S WORKFORCE TRANSFORMATION

Challenge

A leading global biologics R&D company began shifting its financial portfolio to support a growing pipeline, putting greater emphasis on first-to-market projects and increased profitability. Each site was challenged to reduce costs.

For the company's biorepository facility, this meant limitations on staffing core research functions while continuing to support the critical and rapidly increasing sample management needs of the entire organisation. Compounded by tightening labor markets and options, the organisation faced hard decisions to potentially reduce service levels and the biorepository's value-adding services.

Solution

The company recognised **VWRCATALYST** as a high-quality, cost effective, flexible, and scalable solution to meet their sample management needs. After an in-depth review, **VWRCATALYST** identified the most efficient process and assembled an experienced team to manage the programme.

Adhering to Good Laboratory Practices (GLP's), the **VWRCATALYST** team is currently performing all sample management at this site, including tracking and receipt of specimen shipments as well as accessioning of specimens.

Additionally, **VWRCATALYST** manages all data entry processes, such as updating sample databases in the company's Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), sample registration and maintenance of sample life-cycle documentation.

The biorepository leadership also asked **VWRCATALYST** to manage freezers within their facility. The team now provides on-call freezer monitoring and basic freezer preventative maintenance, safeguarding against sample loss and out-of-compliance equipment.

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Challenge

A shift in financial focus resulted in workforce and workload strain at a R&D company's biorepository, risking sample management delays.

Solution

VWRCATALYST assembled a sample management programme, developing improved processes to sustain a growing workload with 50% of the original workforce.

Result

The customer has captured a cost savings of **\$300 000** and attained **scalability** through **VWRCATALYST's** business model with **zero lost service time and productivity**.

"A gold star for the VWRCATALYST team"
- Scientific leader at the biorepository

Result

The customer benefited with savings generated through process efficiency following the transfer of the operation to **VWRCATALYST** (a savings of \$300 000). Despite a leaner team, **VWRCATALYST**'s onsite associates were able to deliver the quality so critical to R&D while managing the increasing sample management volume, with zero productivity disruption due to lean process optimization.

Since the addition of the **VWRCATALYST** team, the biorepository facility has reclaimed time for its highly valued scientists to grow the company's strategic advantage. **VWRCATALYST** performs protocol-driven processes, allowing researchers to focus on higher scientific functions.

Given the success of this sample management programme, the company recently expanded the responsibilities of **VWRCATALYST**'s onsite service team to other sample management sites in North America.

Output of VWRCATALYST Sample Management Team

Shipments received	2531
Total samples accessioned	163 573
Samples distributed	49 615
Requisitions entered	3896
Current at time of publication.	

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