

Connecting the Dots: Inside Central Production North and What Comes Next

Presented by:
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Speaker Personal Disclosure



Presenter's Name: Paige Harrison

I have no current or past relationships with commercial entities

I

have received an honorarium from Rx Tech Summit for this learning activity

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- ▶ **Describe** the structure and key service areas of Central Production North.
- ▶ **Explain** how each specialized area contributes to safe, efficient medication distribution and supports patient care across the health system.
- ▶ **Identify** opportunities or future directions for the Pharmacy Connect project to enhance pharmacy practice and system integration within Alberta Health Services.

Learning Objectives

Land Acknowledgement

- ▶ We would like to respectfully acknowledge that we are gathered on **Treaty 6, Treaty 7 and Treaty 8 territory** the traditional lands of many First Nations.
- ▶ We acknowledge the enduring connection Indigenous peoples have to this land and recognize their contributions to the community where we live, work, and provide care.
- ▶ We honor the histories, cultures, and stewardship of the First Peoples of this region and commit to ongoing learning and respect.



Terminology

Acronym	Terminology	Definition
APM	Automated Packaging Machine	a high-volume automated packaging system for patient-specific, bulk unit-dose packaging
ASRS	Automated Storage and Retrieval System	A variation of computer-controlled systems that automatically place and retrieve loads from set storage locations in a facility with precision, accuracy and speed
IR	Inventory Replenishment	Process involving tracking, storing, and replenishing medications to effectively meet patient needs
MTO	Made to Order	Items specifically made according to a customer's specifications
MTS	Made to Stock	A manufacturing strategy in which production is based on some type of pre-defined product demand.
SO	Sale order	A purchase request sent to CPN through EPIC
WO	Work order	CPN compounding record outlining the specific ingredients instructions and details for the production and manufacturing of a particular item or product.

What is Central Production North?

North sector
transformation initiative

Centralized medication
preparation &
distribution model

Supports healthcare
facilities across the
North Sector

Built on collaboration +
innovation

Central Production North Building FAQ's

What's the size of the building?

Where is it located?

Is there parking onsite? If so, do staff have to pay for parking?

Is it accessible by public transit?

Will there be a new Information Technology (IT) system?

When will Central Production North be open?



Outside of Central Production North

What Central Production North Will Offer

☐

Centralized compounding (sterile & non-sterile)

☐

Automated repackaging

☐

Inventory replenishment & distribution

☐

Patient-specific cart fills (select cases)

Facility Overview

An overview
of the facility



Shipping &
Receiving,
barcoding
&
quarantine

Shipping consolidation,
refrigerated storage, and
automated storage retrieval
system (ASRS)

Sterile Non-
Hazardous
Compounding

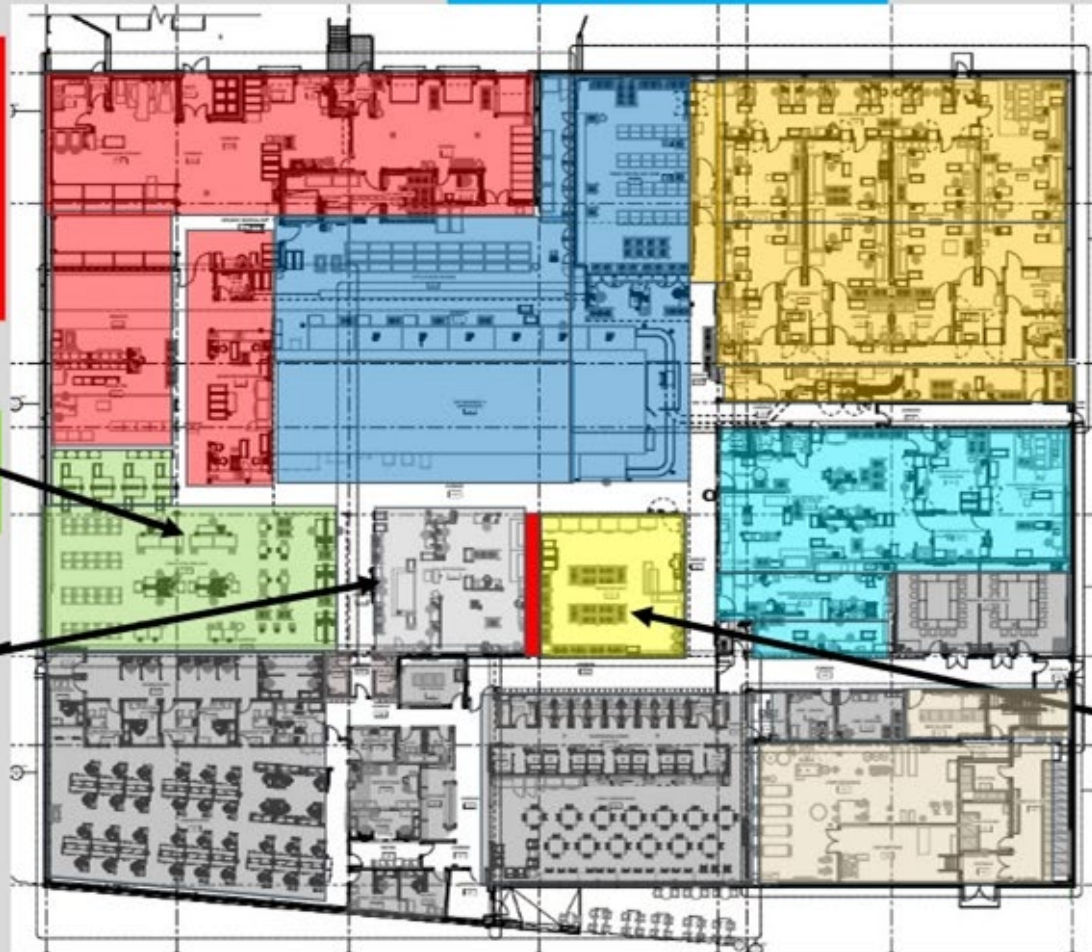
Automated
Repackaging

Hazardous Sterile
& Non-Sterile
Compounding, and
Non-Haz NS
compounding

Low Volume
oral and
liquid
repackaging

Vault

FME
Space



Offices, Prov Ops, Staff amenities, Reflection space, FME, EVS

Shipping & Receiving, Barcoding & Quarantine (Red area)

Entry point for all medications

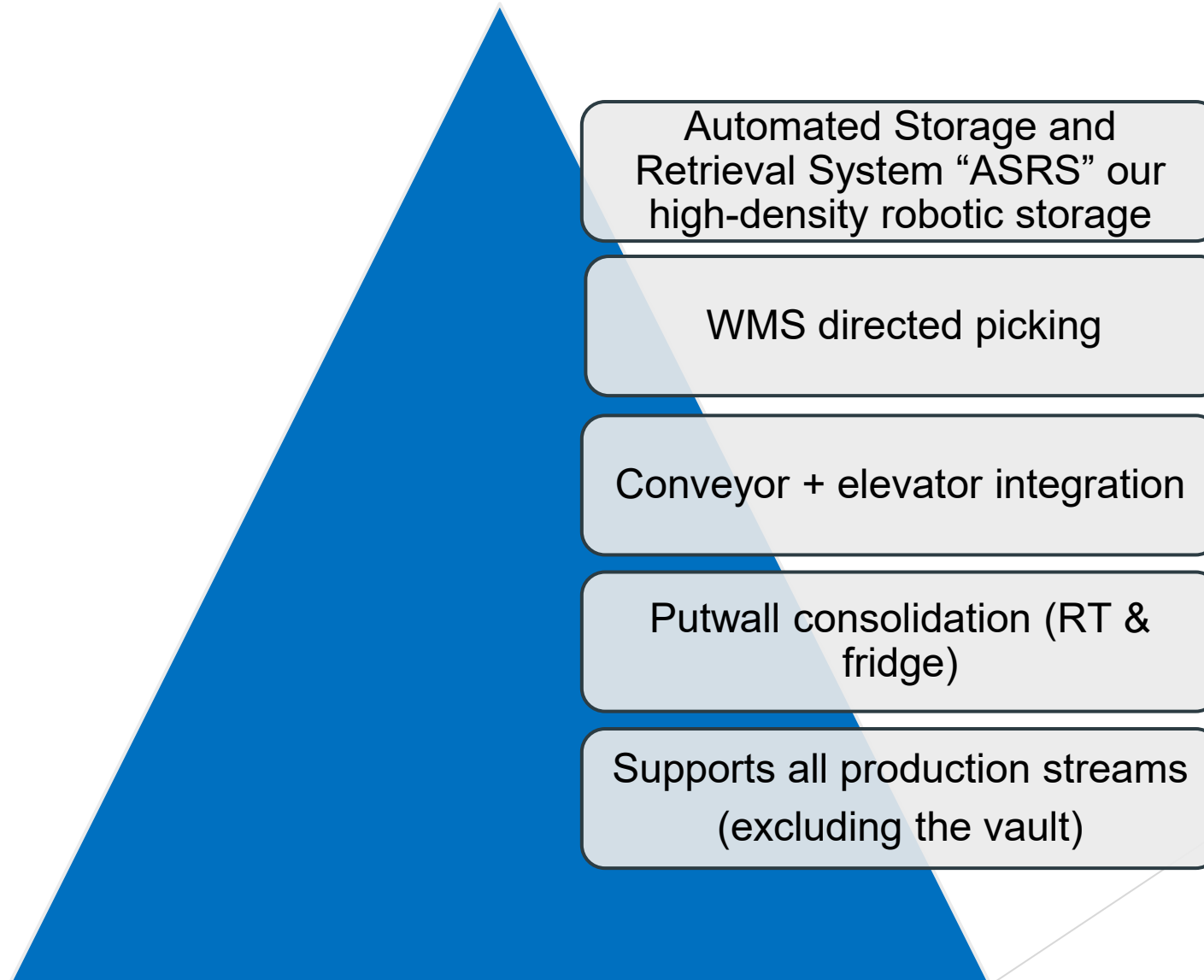
Unpack, sort, and barcode verification

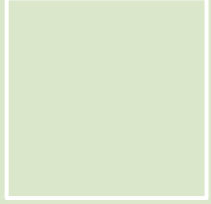
Quarantine & quality control

No corrugated cardboard beyond this point

Directed put-away across facility

Shipping, Storage & ASRS (Blue area)

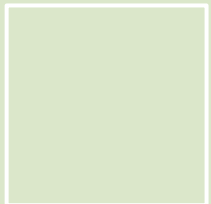




8 automated packaging machines (APMs) and 6 automated checking machines (ACMs) are located



We will have workspace for the STS (special tablet system) tray preparation



The space was also designed with storage for bulk bottles that will be used in the APMs & STS trays

Automated
Repackaging
(Green area)

Low Volume Oral solid Repackaging (Grey area)

Semi automated repackaging (TF1 & Tabletop machines)

Partial tablet splitting (“EZ” cut machine)

Cold seal, overwrapping, kitting & pop out preparation

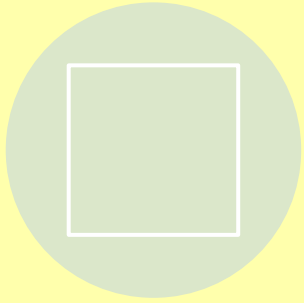
Centralized checking station

Located next to vault

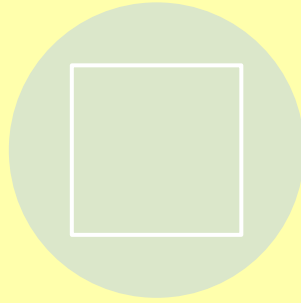


Image Source: Pharmaworks LLC Website

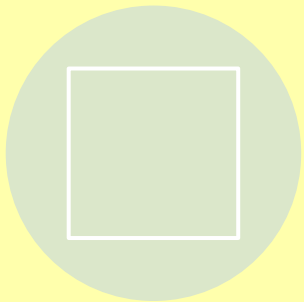
New “TF1” machine



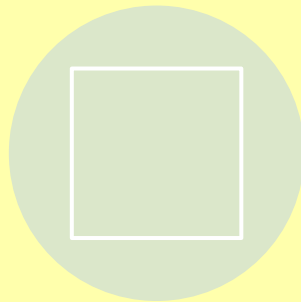
SECURE STORAGE
FOR NARCOTICS &
CONTROLLED
SUBSTANCES



HEALTH CANADA
DEALER LICENSE



STRICT SPATIAL &
VISIBILITY
REQUIREMENTS



REINFORCED VAULT
DOOR

Vault (Yellow
area)

Non-Hazardous Sterile Compounding (Orange area)

Provides a **controlled, ISO-classified environment (ISO 8 → ISO 7→ISO 8)** for sterile compounding

20 PECs throughout the 4 cleanrooms

Ensures **product sterility and patient safety** through strict workflow and environmental controls

Designed for **efficient, unidirectional flow** of materials and staff to prevent contamination

Hazardous sterile compounding, Hazardous non-sterile compounding & Non-hazardous non-sterile compounding (Aqua Area)

Hazardous sterile compounding & hazardous non-sterile compounding

Non-sterile non-hazardous compounding

Repackaging & splitting of highly allergenic tablets

Repackaging of reproductive medications
(Except controlled substances)

Decanting of oral liquids

What does the future hold?

Future Opportunities & Strategic Growth

- ▶ Standardization Across the North Sector
- ▶ Data-Driven Pharmacy Operations
- ▶ Support for Workforce Evolution

The background features a dark blue-grey field on the left, transitioning into a series of overlapping, semi-transparent green and lime-green geometric shapes on the right. These shapes include triangles and polygons of varying sizes and orientations, creating a dynamic, layered effect. A thin white line runs diagonally across the lower right portion of the image.

Thank you

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect.

Questions?