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RESEARCH INSTITUTE PUTS GRAEBEL TO THE TEST

HOSPITAL LABORATORIES AND GENETICS PIONEER ARE SUCESSFULLY MOVED

CASE STUDY

THE CHALLENGE

The timeframe to complete the project was critical. Dr. Wallace, a world renowned scientist and scholar, required an expedited relocation for the opening of his new Center for Mitochondrial and Epigenomic Medicine at CHOP.

To coordinate the transcontinental move, project managers from Graebel Los Angeles and New Jersey service centers traveled to UCI to meet with Dr. Wallace and his team. Graebel representatives toured the UCI genetics lab for two days to assess the move requirements. A detailed inventory list included glassware, shakers, microscopes, cell incubators, centrifuges and sub-zero freezers. Graebel had custom crates built to protect sensitive devices, and arranged for testing equipment to be decommissioned, recertified and revalidated with the respective manufacturers.

The aspect most critical to Dr. Wallace was the preservation of frozen cell specimens, a culmination of forty years of mitochondrial research and testing. "These specimens are the foundation, the lifeblood of our work. The goal is to find treatments for disorders caused by mitochondria mutations, such as diabetes, obesity, deafness, blindness and cardiovascular disease. Without these cell lines, we would not have the ability to move forward with therapeutic applications and drug testing." stated Dr. Wallace.

(continued on reverse)

THE CUSTOMER

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) Research Institute is a nationally-acclaimed organization focused on pediatric disease exploration and potential cures.

PROJECT SCOPE

To relocate on-campus investigators from multiple sites into their new space at the Colket Translational Research Building over a six-month timeframe. Close collaboration was mandatory with each CHOP department, and a hospital-approved biohazard company, to safely relocate sensitive equipment, furnishings and office supplies.

To also perform west coast relocation, a 2,800-mile transfer, of Dr. Wallace's laboratory, frozen cell specimens and research personnel from the University of California-Irvine (UCI) to the CHOP campus in less than three weeks.

WHY GRAEBEL

With specialized laboratory experience, Graebel was responsive to the needs of hospital and research staff, flexible to accommodate special requests, and the only provider who would commit to the short three-week timeframe to relocate Dr. Wallace and his team from California to Pennsylvania. Additionally, Dr. Wallace's experience with Graebel representatives on a previous move gave him confidence that the synergistic relationship would result in a seamless transition.

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"The hospital has a solid working relationship with Graebel. Our on-campus laboratories and administrative staff were moved without incident. When we received word that Dr. Wallace would be joining our team, Graebel's involvement was a natural fit. They were responsive to our needs, and the only company who could meet the tight time schedule. In every aspect, Graebel delivered."

- Howard Eck, director of research resources, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute

THE SOLUTION

To protect the valuable specimens, Graebel arranged for refrigerated transport through a certified supplier. Drivers complied with all governmental regulations specific to biological materials, and backup generators and extra liquid nitrogen tanks were onboard. From origin to destination, the highly-sensitive freezers were continuously monitored for any variation in temperature.

Upon arrival at the CHOP campus, just prior to offload, one freezer gauge differed slightly from the rest. Within thirty minutes, Graebel had two spare units on-site and ready for cell transfer.

The original freezer stabilized without intervention, and the collection was safely delivered. Graebel also transferred non-biological materials and equipment to Dr. Wallace's new laboratory, which spans an entire floor within the Colket facility.

THE RESULTS

From start to finish, Dr. Wallace was satisfied with the performance and commitment of the Graebel crew. "Everyone was thoroughly committed to protecting our specimens, equipment and supplies. I felt very comfortable with the process, and thrilled to be a part of CHOP's research endeavors."