



# Artificial Intelligence and Self Learning: Paving the way to improve Logistics Automation

September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# Agenda

01. **Why** Logistics Automation? 5-6 Mins
02. **What** are “**Healthcare Ready**” Options for Logistics Automation? 5-6 Mins
03. **How** is AI impacting future of Logistics Automation 7-8 Mins
04. **Pre-planning & Building Consensus** for adoption of technology 6-7 Mins
05. **Code & Planning** challenges 6-7 Mins
06. **Business Case** Example 7-8 Mins
07. **Summary** & Questions

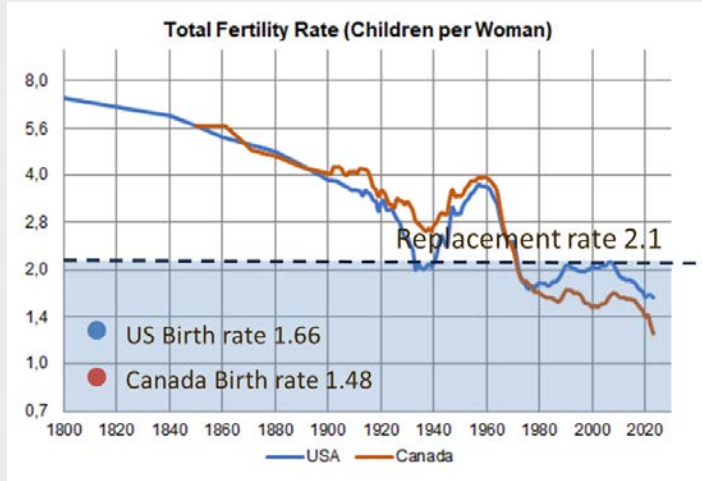
# Why - Logistics Automation?



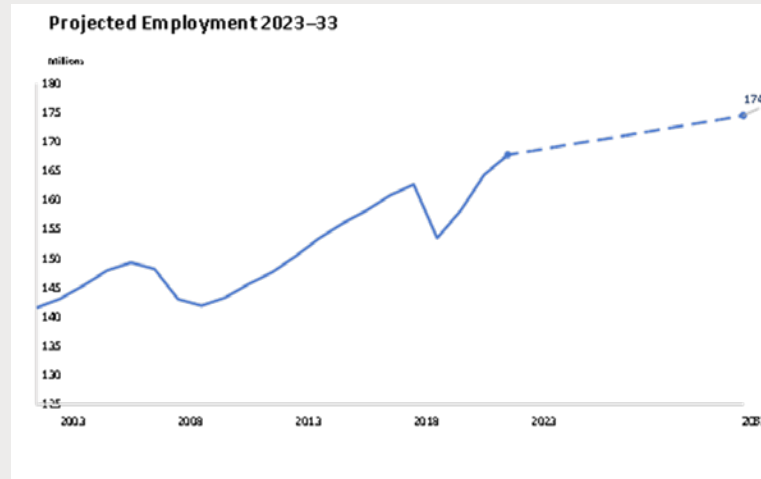
# Key Influential Macro Factors



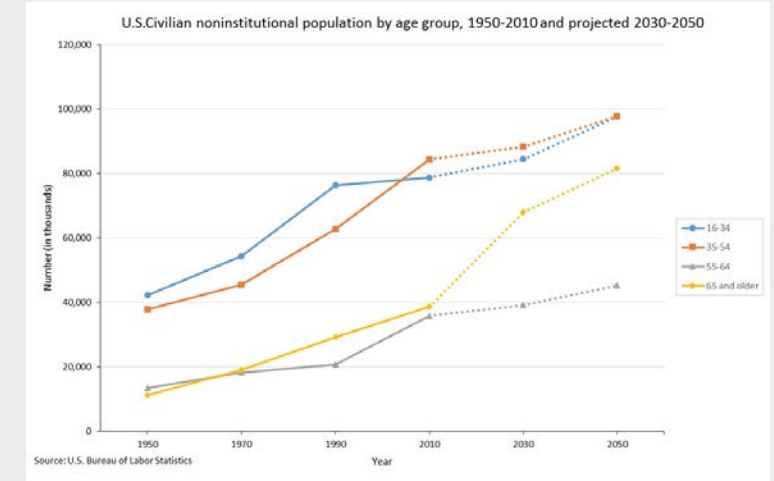
# Perfect Storm Leading to Labor Shortage



Birth Rate Decline (CBC)



Employment Growth (BLS)



Aging Workforce (CDC)

**4.5MM fewer US babies born** in the second decade, combined with **6.7MM job growth** over the next decade and Employment of **workers aged 65 or older** has grown by **117%** within past 20 years will inevitably lead to **sever labor shortages**



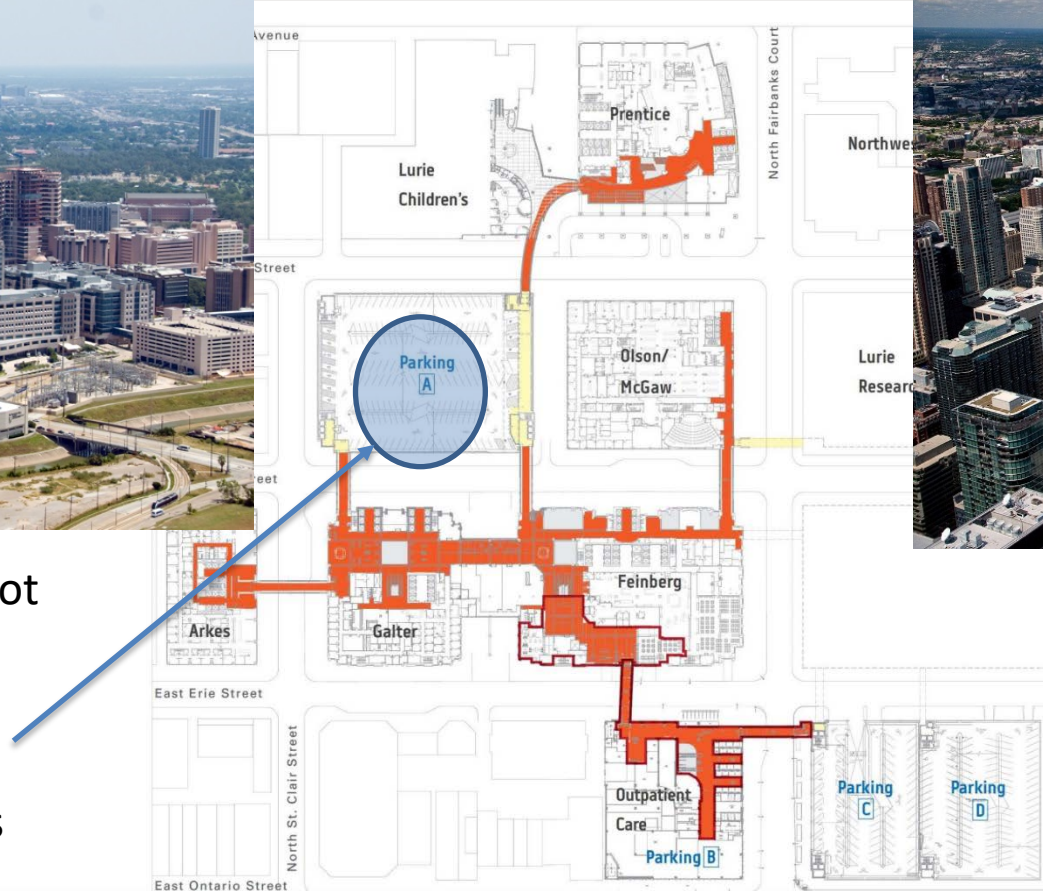
# Campus Expansion, Distances and Connectivity



50 million SF in a campus - not connected



Central Loading Dock (13 bays) and Med Gas Tank Farm.



10 million SF - connected

**1000 carts per day  
traveling approx. 250 miles**

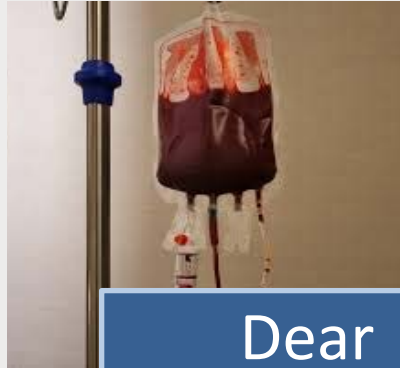


# Peter Gilgan Mississauga Hospital – Ontario, Canada



2.8MM SQFT 950 Beds - Designed by Stantec

# 5Ds of Automation Qualifiers



Dear



Dirty



Dull



Difficult



Dangerous





# What - Various “Healthcare Ready” Automation Alternatives

# Logistics Automation Solutions in Healthcare

## Vehicle Systems



AGVS



ATVs  
Autonomous Transfer Vehicles



AMR- Service Robots

## Tube Systems



PCS



PTS

# AGVS And ATVs



Transport heavy payloads/carts 1,000- 1300 lbs



Speeds up to 200 feet per minute



Interfaces with elevators & doors



Recharges intermittently as needed



Operational 24/7

## Transports:

- Linen
- Food trays
- Central supplies
- Bulk Food
- Pharmacy
- OR supplies (Case Carts)
- General waste
- Medical waste
- Recyclable Waste



40th Annual FPC Seminar + Expo



# Service Robot (AMR)

## Suitable for Existing Facilities

- Includes autonomous delivery vehicles (similar to AGVs) and service robots
- Service Robots suitable for Meds, small patient equipment, and Lab specimen
- Some AMRs are **capable of self-learning modules (AI)** that enables them to improve productivity and reduce interruptions once in operation
- **Appropriate for Retrofitting in existing facilities**

**Biometric Authentication Capability** Makes The AMR Technology Ideal For Transfer Of **Meds, Specimen and Blood.**



Biometric Authentication



**Speed** - 150-200 feet per Minute

**Payloads** – 1000-1400 lbs

## Travel paths shared by:

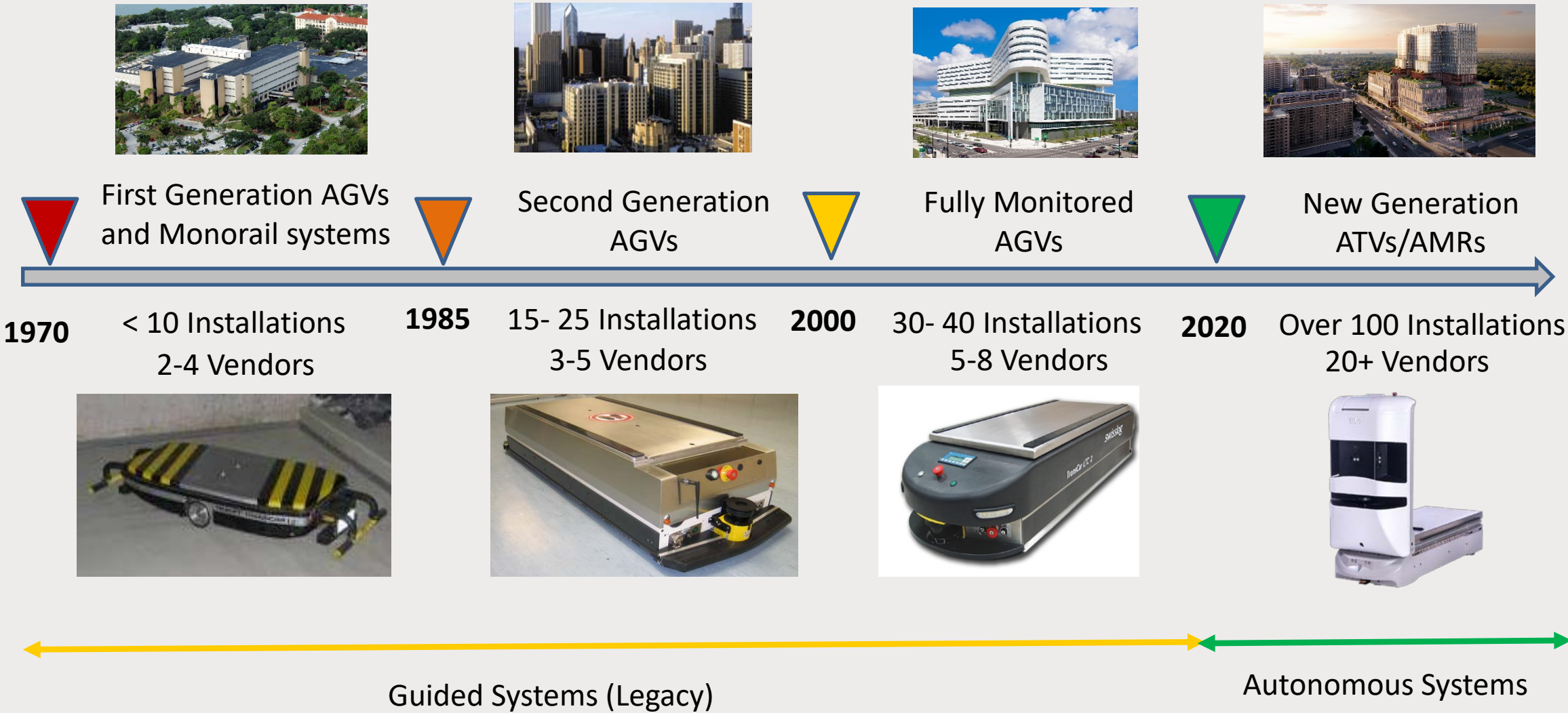
- Clinicians
- Patients/Families
- Service Staff
- Other Equipment

## Patient Experience:

- Alerts
- Speed and Safety
- Noise levels



# Evolution of Logistics Automation & Healthcare Readiness





# Autonomous Transfer Robot (ATR) Vs Automated Guided Vehicles(AGV)

	Autonomous Transfer Vehicles (ATVs)	Automated Guided Vehicles (AGV)
Navigation	Autonomous / <b>Artificial Intelligence</b>	Line-guided navigation
Safety	<b>Navigates around obstacles</b>	Stops for obstacles
Installation	Fast and easy	Requires Infrastructure Changes
Flexibility/ Reprogramming	<b>Fast and easy to change/scale</b>	Difficult to change/scale
Reliability	<b>More Reliable</b>	Reliable
Speed of Delivery	Faster	Slower
Interface Capability with other systems	Readiness to communicate with <b>many Hospital Systems</b>	Limited (Doors, Elevators)
Investment/Space	Higher acquisition costs; Reduced space needs	Acquisition costs low; plus construction/infrastructure costs

# Powered/Pneumatic Chute/Collection Systems (PCS)

- Automated Soiled Materials Transfer & Collection
- **Fosters separation of soiled and clean and reduced elevator use**
- **Helps reduce Hospital Acquired Infections (HAIs)**
- **Lower floor space requirements on most patient areas**
- Typically uses double doors for better safety
- Typically uses 16" or 20" shaft



Appropriate for transfer of **soiled linen, regulated waste and recyclables.**

# Pneumatic Tube Systems (PTS)

## PT Systems

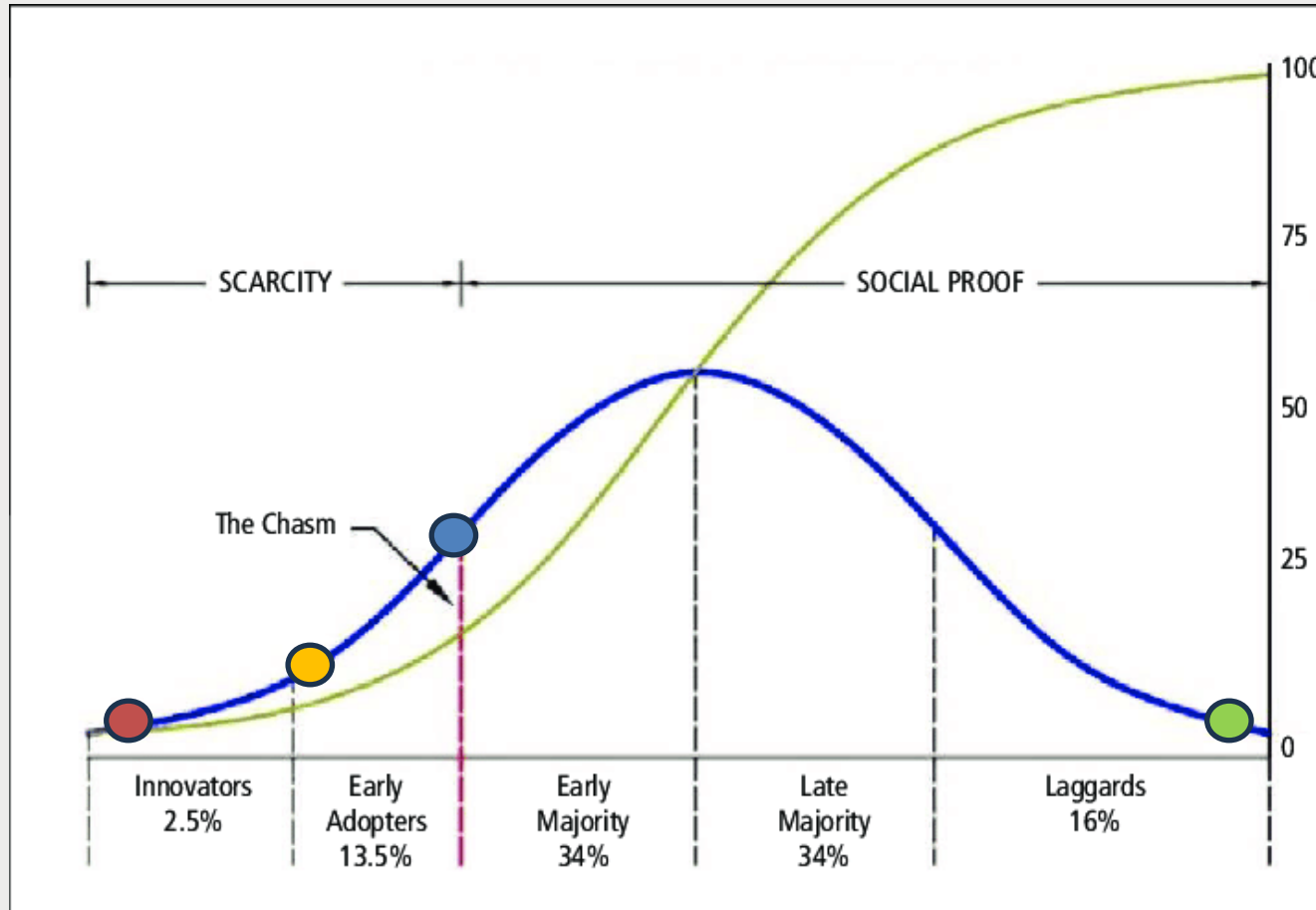
- Promotes patient safety and privacy
- Protects sensitive medical materials with fast and reliable delivery
- An expandable, long-life system
- **25 fps High Speed Transport**
- **Payloads up to 15 lbs**
- Transports lab specimens, medications, sensitive items, IVs, patient records



Pneumatic Tube System (PTS) is the most commonly used logistics automation system in Healthcare facilities.



# Law of Diffusion of Innovation – Logistics Automation



# Logistics Automation by Numbers



## PTS

Pneumatic tube  
system

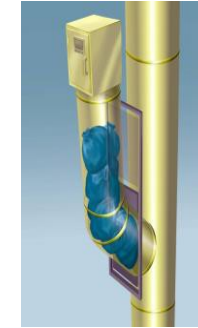
2024	>90%
2030	>90%



## AGV/ATR

Automated guided  
vehicles/ Autonomous  
mobile robots

2024	<2%
2030	>40%



## PCS

Powered chute  
system

2024	<0.5%
2030	>5%

Some form of **Logistics Automation** should be a consideration  
in almost all facilities planning projects.

The background of the slide is a blurred, orange-tinted photograph of a hospital hallway. In the center, a person is lying on a gurney, being pushed by two individuals. To the left, another person is walking away from the camera. In the distance, a wheelchair is visible near an 'EXIT' sign above a doorway. The overall scene suggests a medical or healthcare environment.

# How -Artificial Intelligence Impact and Business Case Process



# AI Influence on Automation - Benefits & Challenges

## Benefits

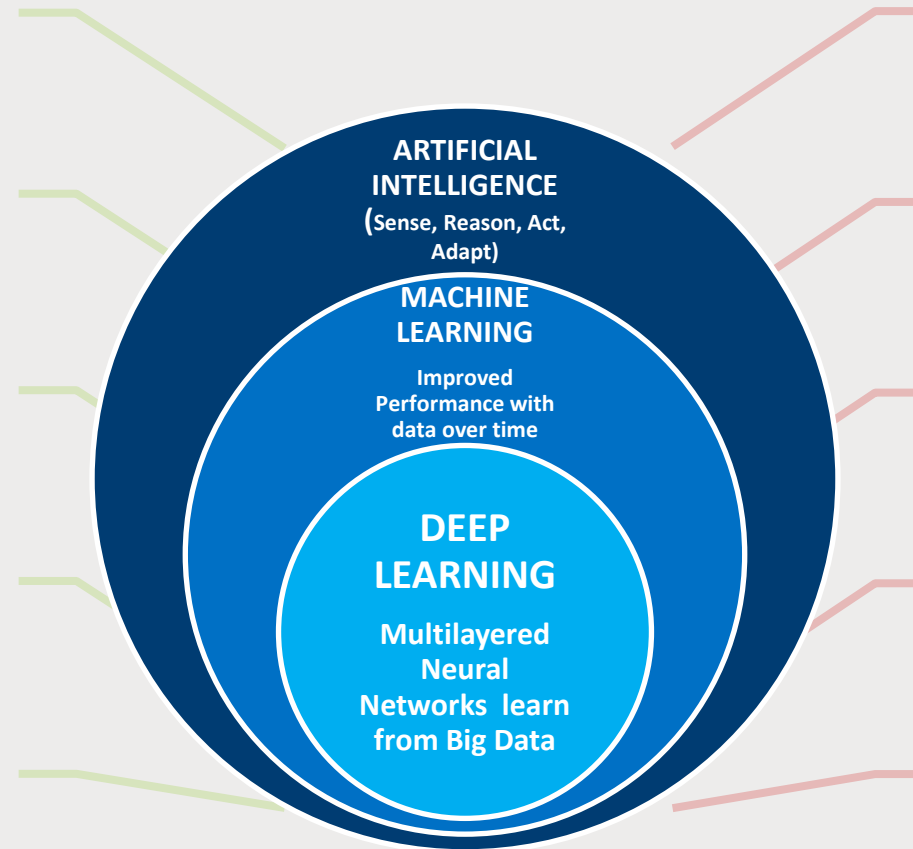
Automation of repetitive tasks

Optimization of processes through data analysis

Ability to process data from multiple systems

Predicting outcomes using predictive analytics with complex data

Enhancing decision-making efficiency.



## Challenges

Bias created by incomplete data

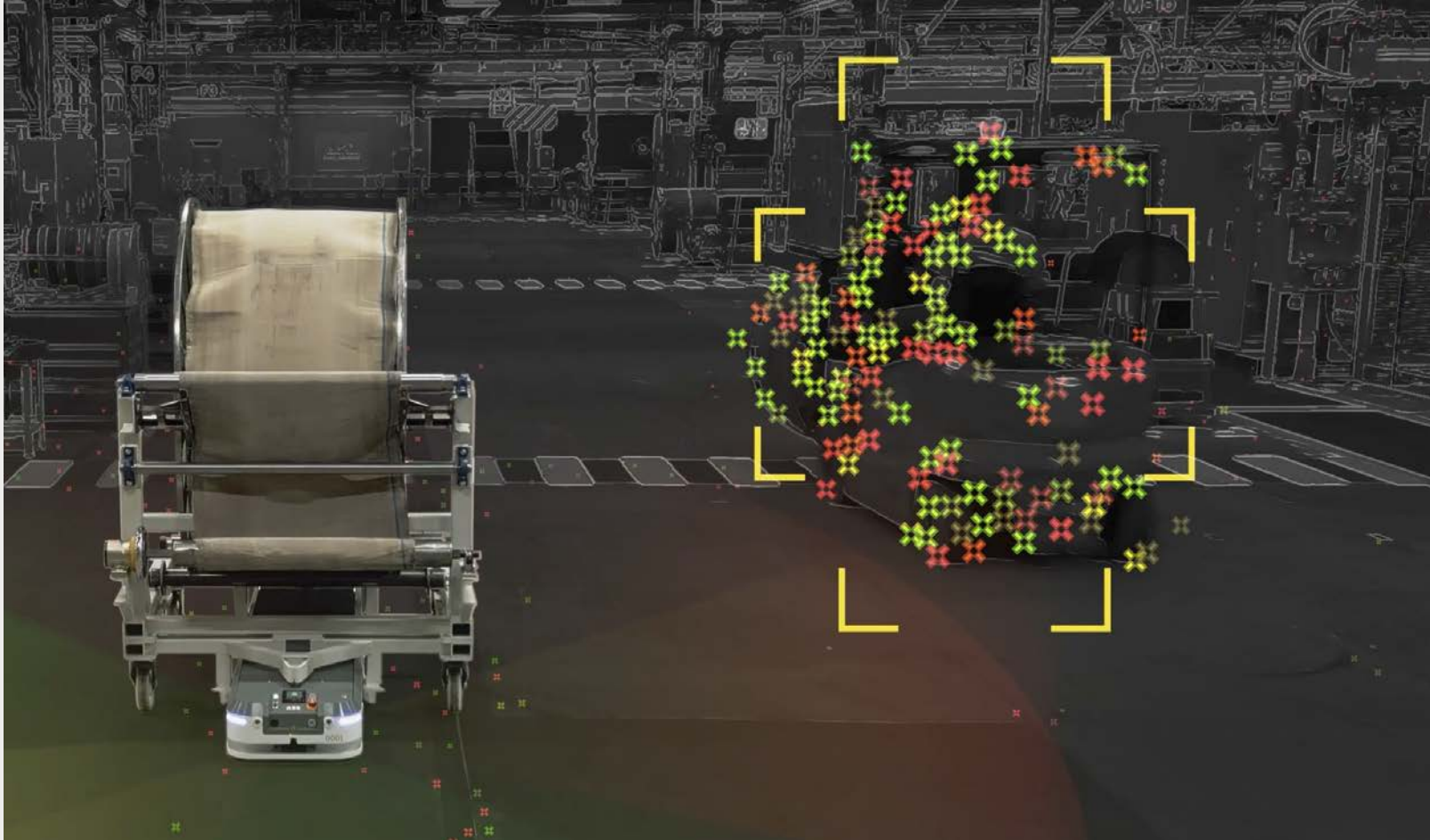
Computing power

Integration with multiple systems

Lack of explainability/ rationale

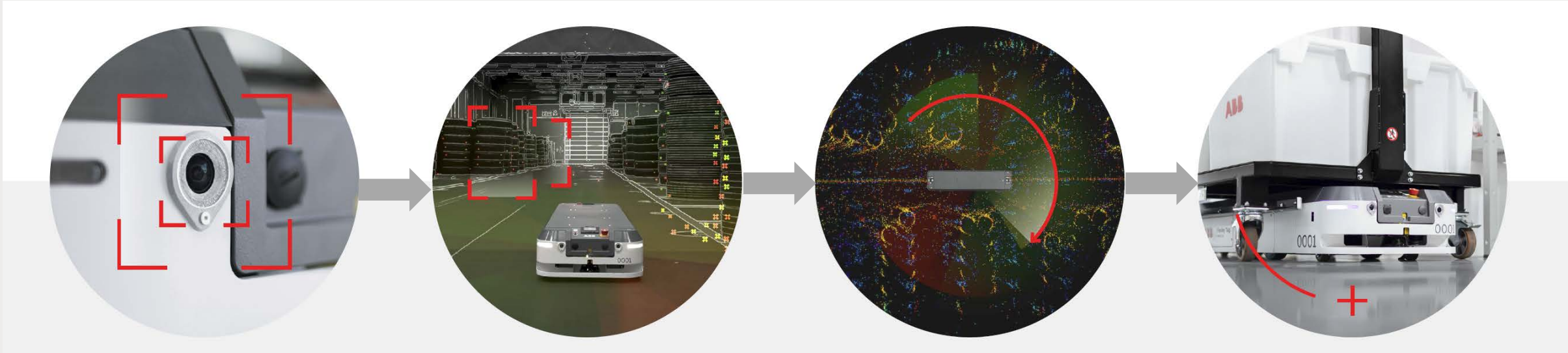
Transparency and expectation management

# Navigation using Visual Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM)



The system uses AI to differentiate between features that are **likely to stay in place** and those that could move.

# Visual SLAM Functioning



## PERCEIVE THE WORLD ACCURATELY

AMRs with VSLAM are able to see the real world accurately in real time.

## RECOGNIZE THE ENVIRONMENT

Differentiates between immovable objects **floors, ceilings and walls**, movable objects like **people or vehicles**.

## BUILD A 3D MAP

AMRs are equipped with 3D mapping capabilities and data from other systems **elevators, doors, and other cameras**.

## OPTIMIZE OPERATIONS

AMRs operate at full efficiency to optimize overall operations.



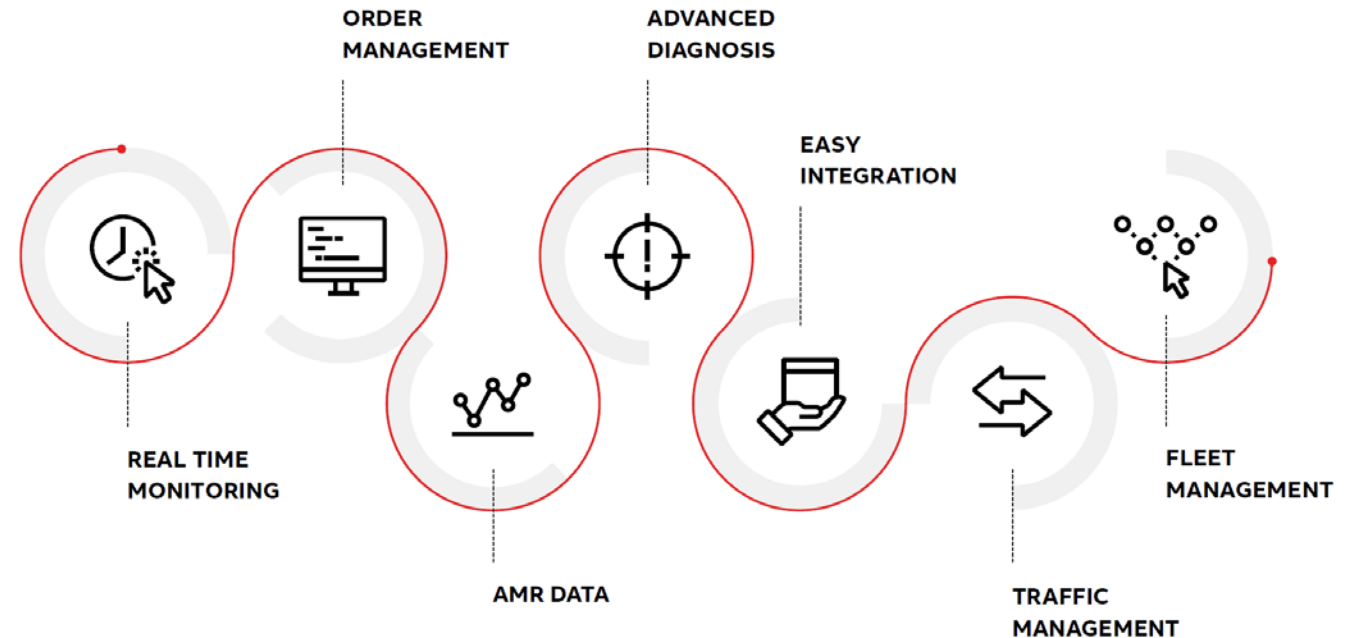
# Central Command and Intelligent Hospital Systems



**Intelligent order assignment** Traffic management algorithms are exceptionally powerful, ensuring that **orders are always distributed with maximum efficiency** and the **best possible routes**.

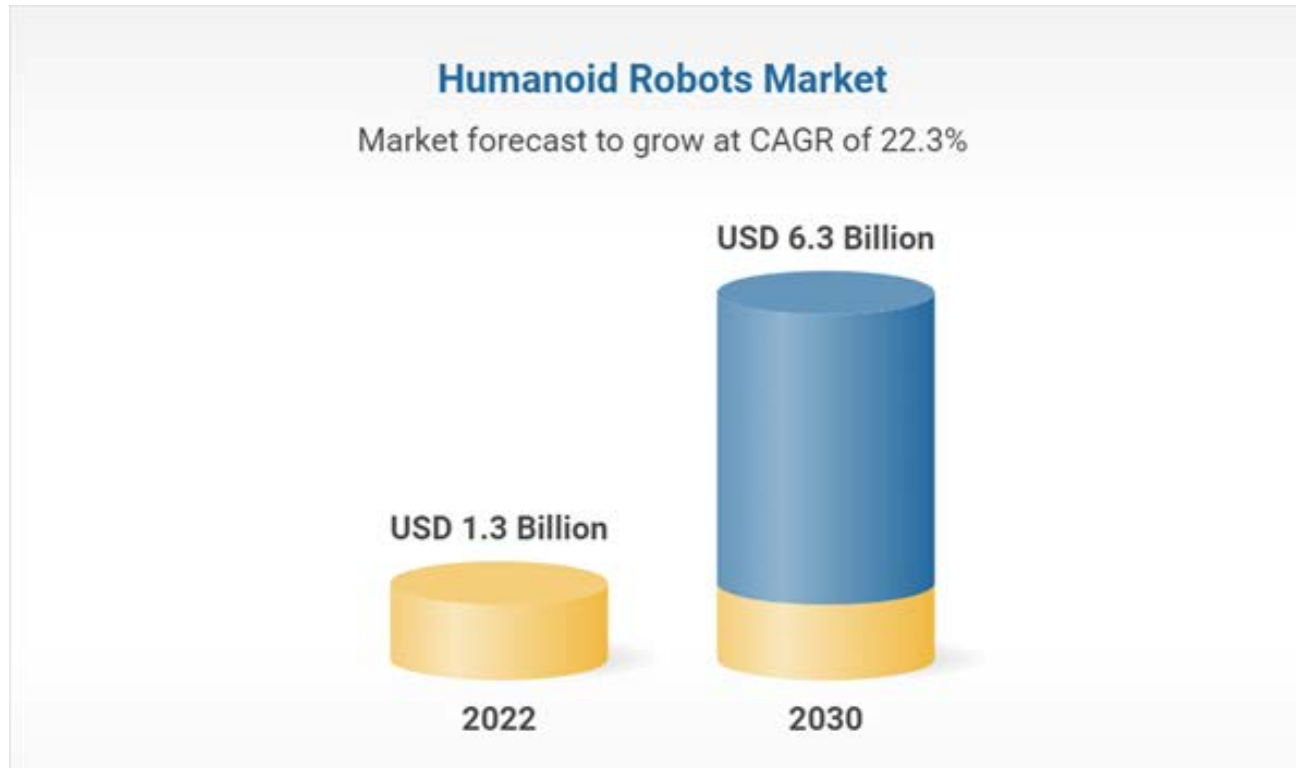


**Customer-centric interface:** Its intuitive navigation empowers user levels to manage the fleet, allowing them to be fully autonomous in their daily operations.



**Full data traceability:** Thanks to AMR's real-time visualization and monitoring of data, it is possible to have full control of what is happening on each work area.

# Humanoid Robots & Healthcare Applications

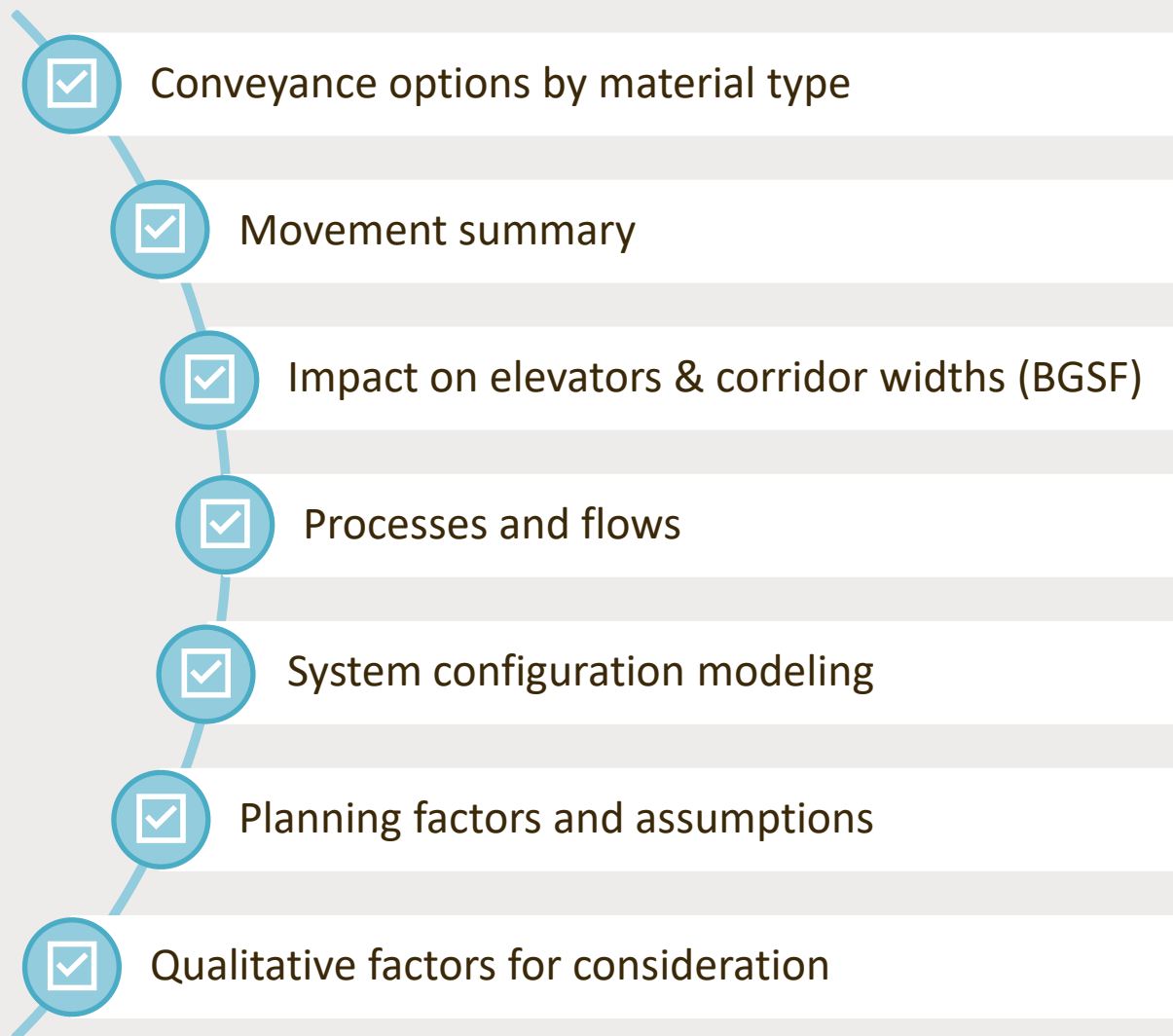


## Healthcare service support applications

- Decontamination
- Simple human tasks that are dangerous
- Areas difficult for AMRs to access



# Key Factors in Business Case Development



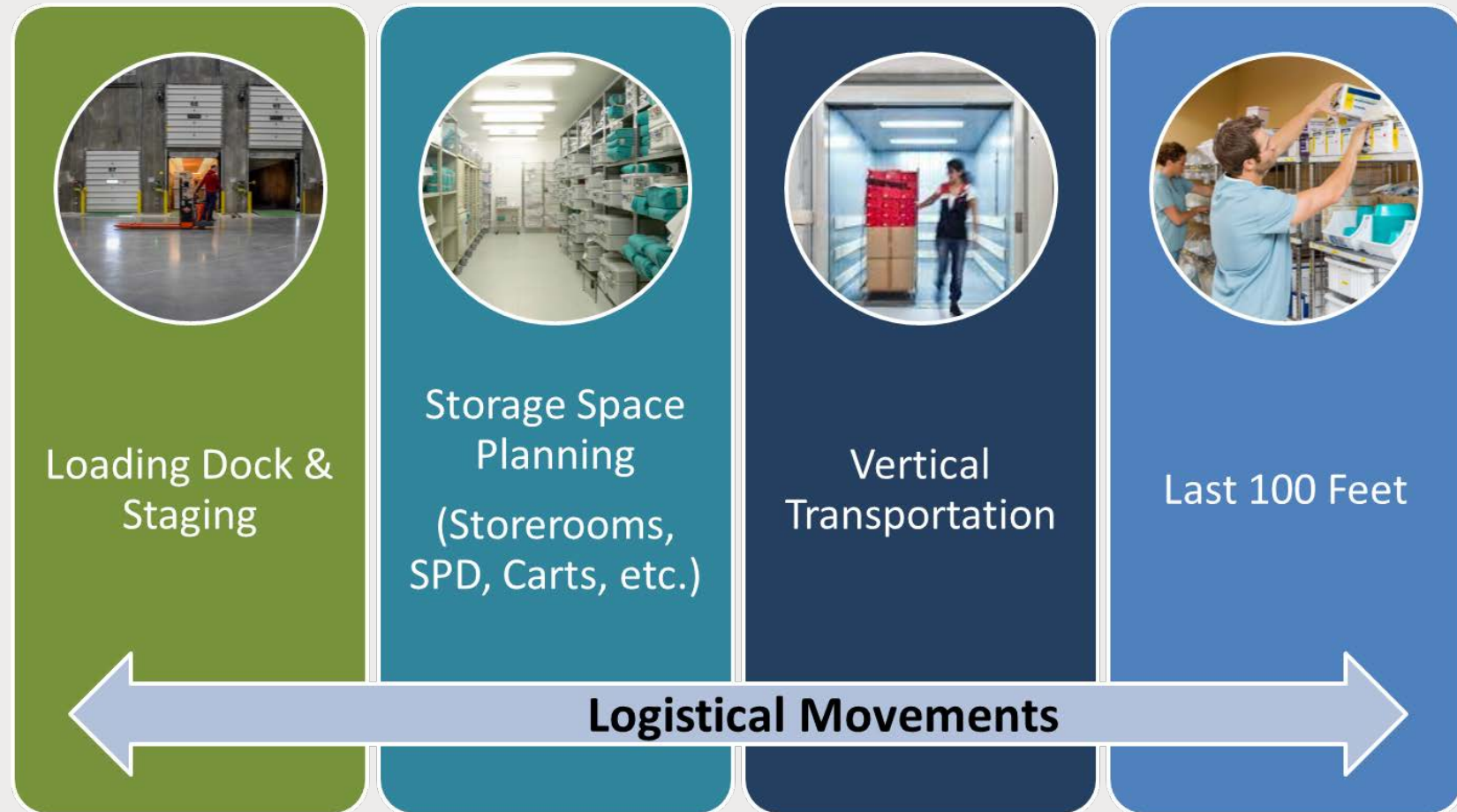
Initial feasibility analysis determines if Business Case is warranted.

Business case should always be developed by **an unbiased Automation Consultant, not a Vendor.**



# Impact of Logistics Planning on Automation

Overall logistics planning has direct impact on **the logistics cost over Life of the New Facility**



# Business Case Inputs & Outputs

## INPUTS

- **Programming data**
- **Volumes**
- **Assumptions**
- **Capital costs**
  - Equipment
  - Elevator
  - IT
  - Building
- **Ongoing costs**
  - Labor
  - Utilities
  - Maintenance
  - Cost of money
  - Replacements

## OUTPUTS

- **System Configuration**
- **Space configuration**
- **Payback**
  - Breakeven
  - Financial Outlook
  - Variations

# Materials and Conveyance Systems

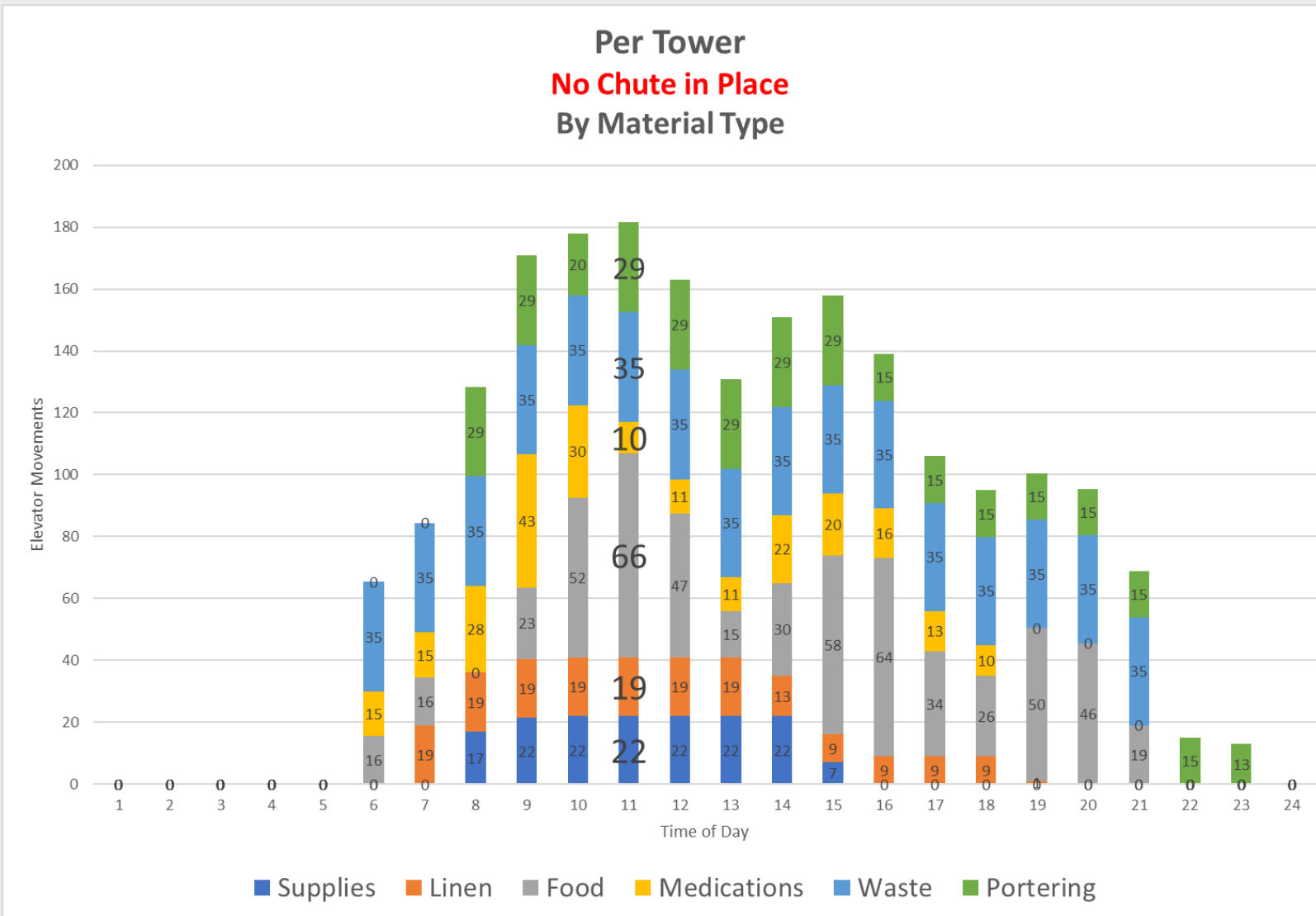
Category	Material Type	Manual	AGVS	AMR	PCS	PTS
Supplies	Med/Surg -JIT	X	X			
	Med/Surg – Routine Orders	X	X	X		
	Med/Surg – STATS	X		X		X
Reusables	IPU (Impatient Unit)	X		X		
	Surgical Case Carts	X	X	X		X
	Crash/Specialty Carts	X	X			
	Reusable Medical Equipment	X		X		
	Rental Equipment	X		X		
Linen	Linen - Clean	X	X			
	Linen - Soiled	X	X		X	
Food Service	Patient Meals	X	X			
	Patient Supplements	X	X			

Category	Material Type	Manual	AGVS	AMR	PCS	PTS
Waste	Non-Infectious waste	X	X		X	
	Mixed recycling	X	X		X	
	Medical infectious waste	X	X			
	Hazardous waste	X	X			
	Cardboard	X	X			
	Other recycling	X	X			
Pharmacy	Organics	X	X			
	24 Hour patient meds	X	X			
	Routine ADC replenishment	X	X			
Lab	STAT/ First dose	X		X		X
	Specimens	X		X		X
	Blood & lood products	X		X		X



# Movement Summary Example

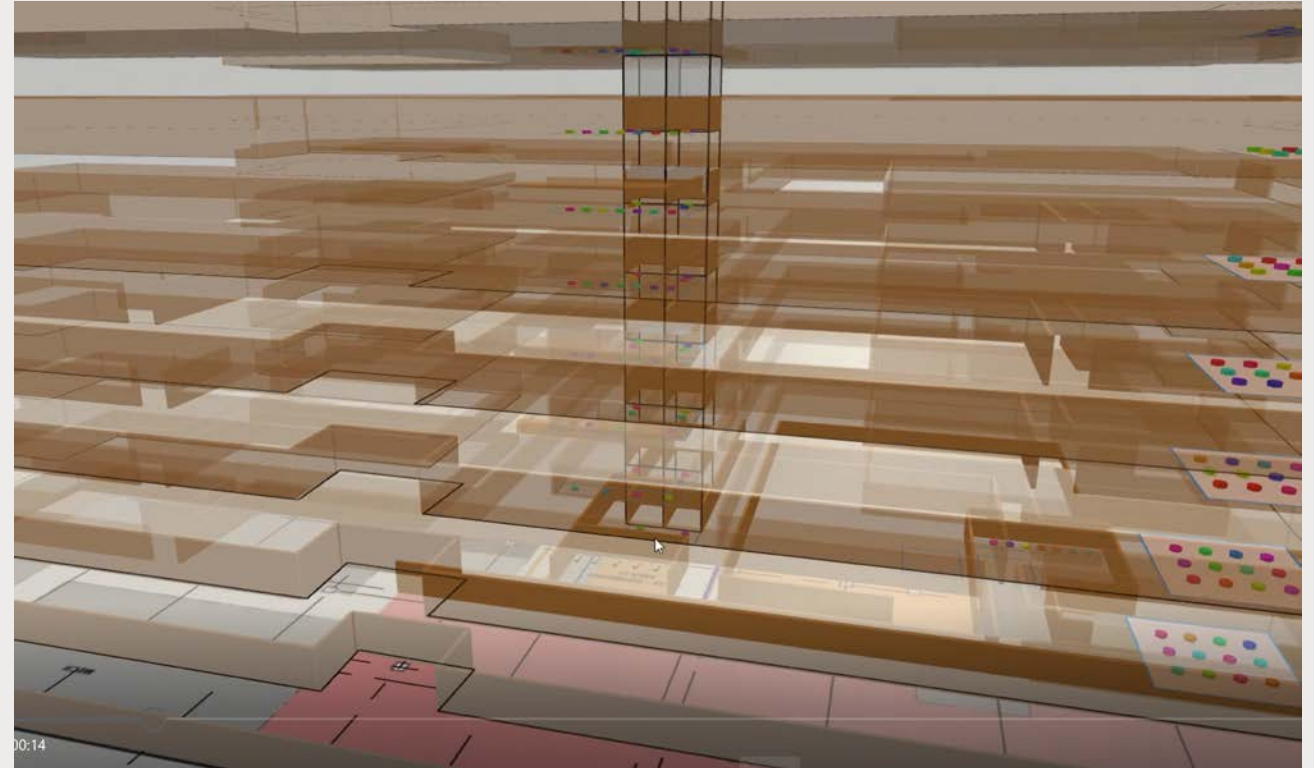
Peak Hour  
determines  
Number of System  
Resources



# Discrete Event Monte Carlo Simulation Modeling

To evaluate system configuration

- Number Of Vehicles (AGV/AMR)
- **Impact of Corridor Width**
- **Impact of Elevator Configuration\***
- **Staging Spaces**
- **P&D And Waiting Spots**
- Scheduling Impact
- Charging & Maintenance
- Delivery Locations
  - Elevator Lobby
  - Patient Care Areas

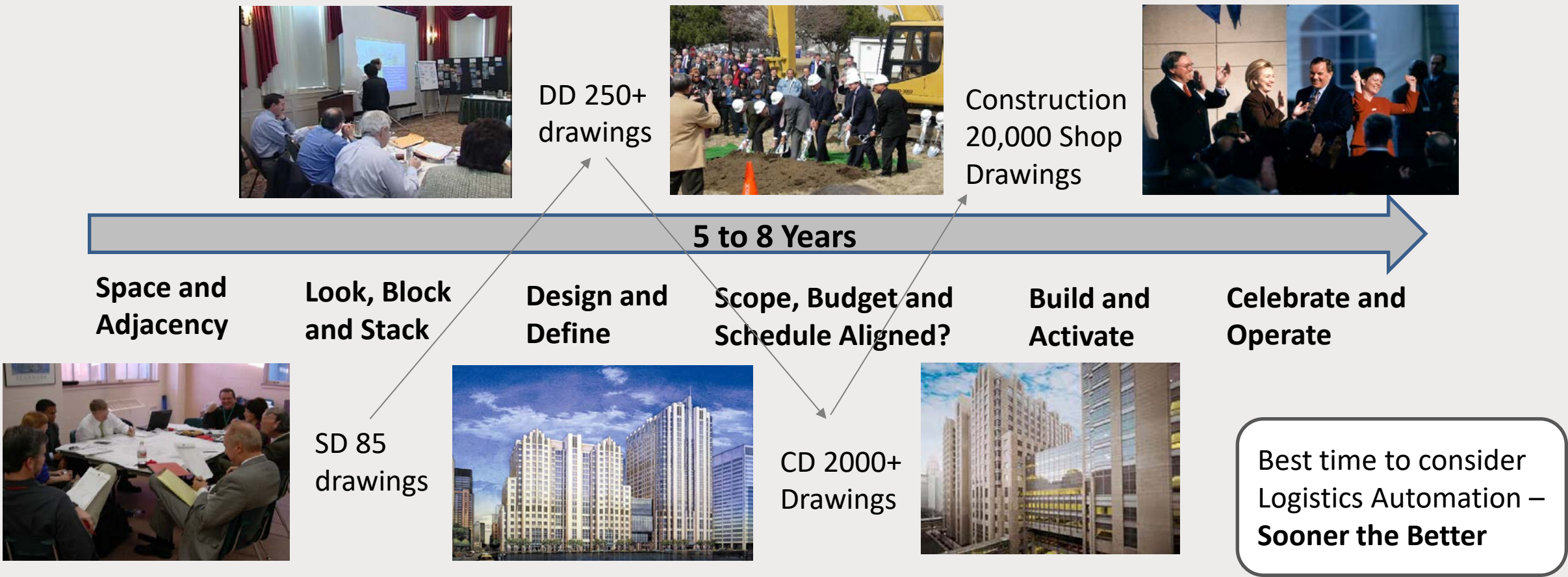


**\*Elevators are one of the most constrained and critical resource** in planning of a Healthcare facility.



# Pre-planning & Building Consensus for Technology Adaptation

# Planning, Design and Construction – Project Arc





# Planning for Automation Technology

- Baseline- Standard Automated Technology (often included)
  - Pneumatic Tubes
  - Laboratory / Pharmacy Equipment
  - Elevators
  - Electronic infrastructure
- **Functional Programming** addresses the 'standard' space required for the future operations, and **does not provide space for 'innovative practices'**



**Start early preferably  
before Functional  
Programming**

- Pre-planning Considerations:
  - Logistics demand for multiple programs
  - Resulting space impacts on both the programming as well as the building spaces
  - Impact on the overall Building Gross Spacing Factor (BGSF) – For ex. extra elevators, staging spaces
  - Architectural and Engineering Specifications for early costing
  - Consideration for existing facilities



## Ministry of Health

- P3 Operating Models
  - Design-Build-Finance-Maintain (DBFM)/DBFOM)
  - Progressive
- Communications
- Budgeting- Funding formulas
  - Capital funding up to 90% of the construction and up to 100% for Planning shared with MOH
- Challenges
- Approval



## Hospital Administration

- Overarching Goals
- Administrative buy-in
- Assigning internal stake holders and project team for automation evaluation
- Communications with other hospitals
- Budgeting
  - Equipment is funded 100% by the Owner
  - Contingency planning

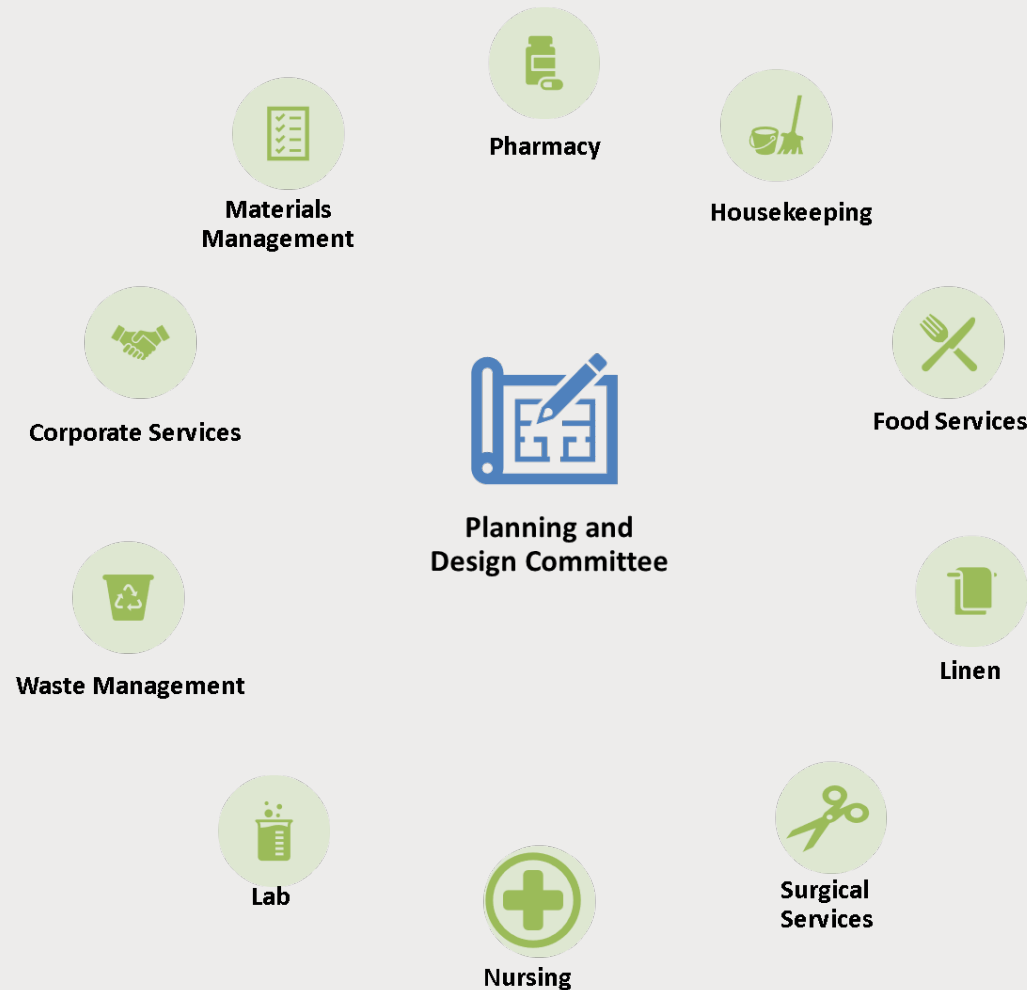


Proactiveness and intentionality on Hospital Administrative end is a key to success

# Staff and Operational Team Buy-in and Participation

## Teams and Participation

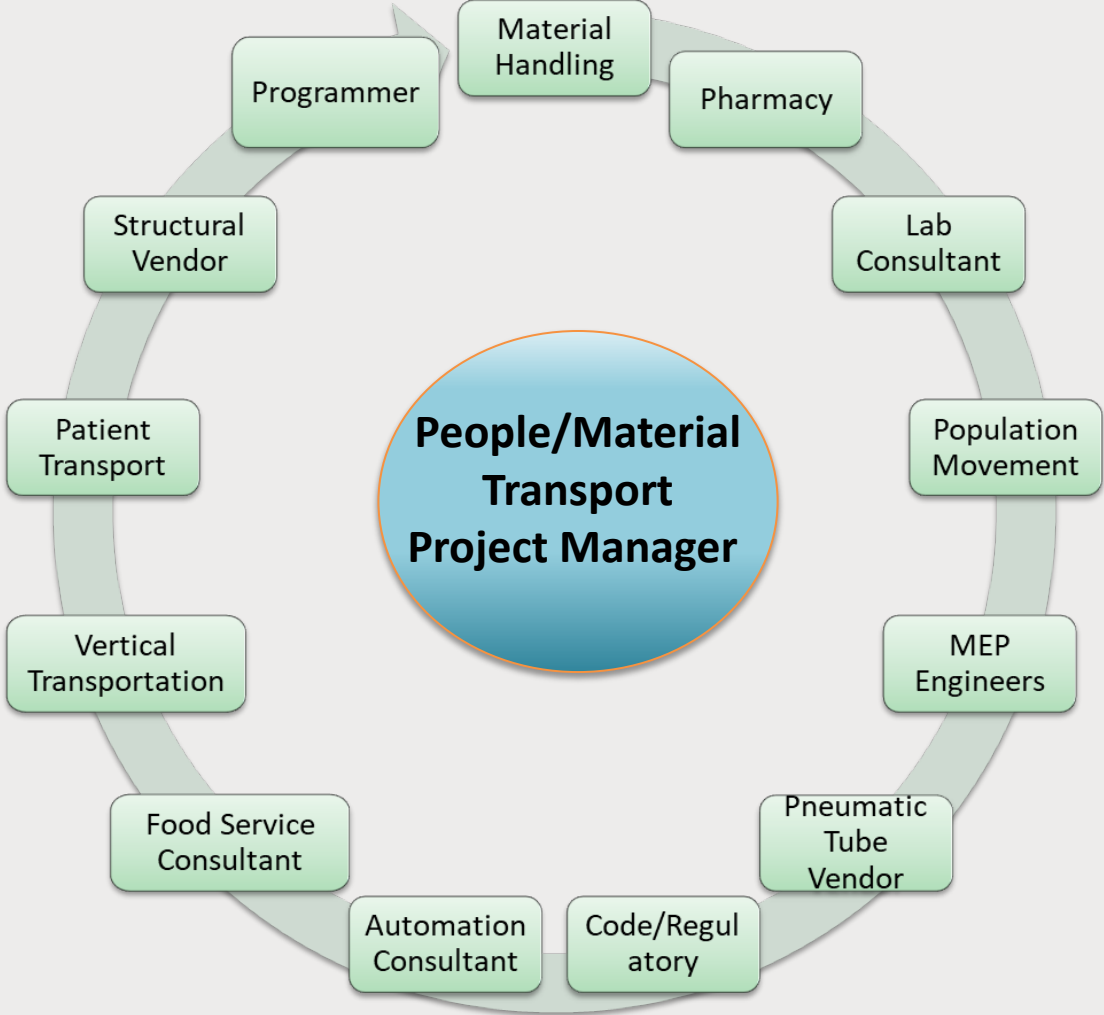
- Current Processes
- Current Volumes
- Current staffing
- Future Processes to include automation
- Future volumes
- Buy-in and participation
- Education
- Tours of facilities using automation



**Internal Buy-in, participation and education** is a key to creating environment to adapt new technologies

**Without automation** FTEs required in future state is **well beyond the current FTE count**

# Co-ordination with Planning and Design Project Team



Early engagement & internal team participation are critical for project success

Multi-disciplinary Integrated Project Team





## The Do's

- ✓ Assigning a project manager/Liasson
- ✓ Clearly defined objectives, scope and deliverables
- ✓ RFI and RFP process to identify an automation SME
- ✓ Operational team awareness & participation
- ✓ Availability of current data and process details
- ✓ Vetting process to ensure SME firm is equipped with most recent technology knowledge
  - ✓ Technical knowledge
  - ✓ Healthcare domain knowledge
  - ✓ Experience



Assigning a Liasson as a conduit between hospital team and SME is a key to a successful evaluation & transition



## The Don'ts

- x Technology vendor not recommended
- x Elevator consultant not best suited to evaluate conveyance systems
- x Consultant familiar with only legacy system such as AGVs not recommended
- x Operations team non-participation
- x Rigidity in adapting new processes needed to adapt technology both by operators and clinical staff
- x Waiting too far into planning process

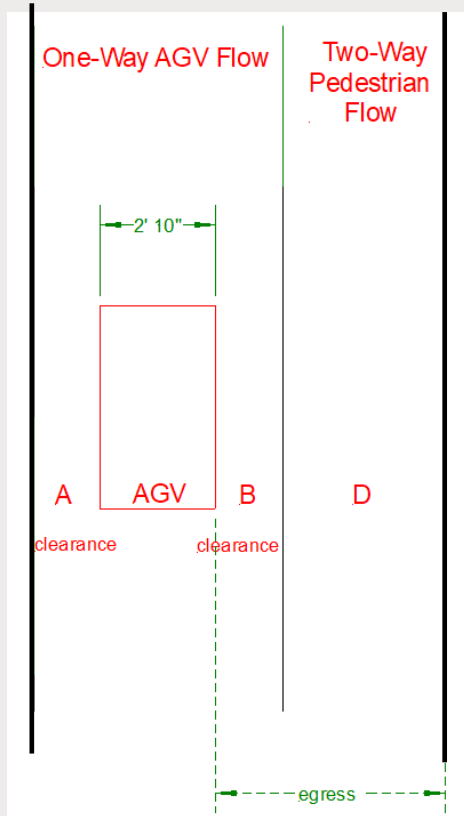


# Regulations and Planning Challenges

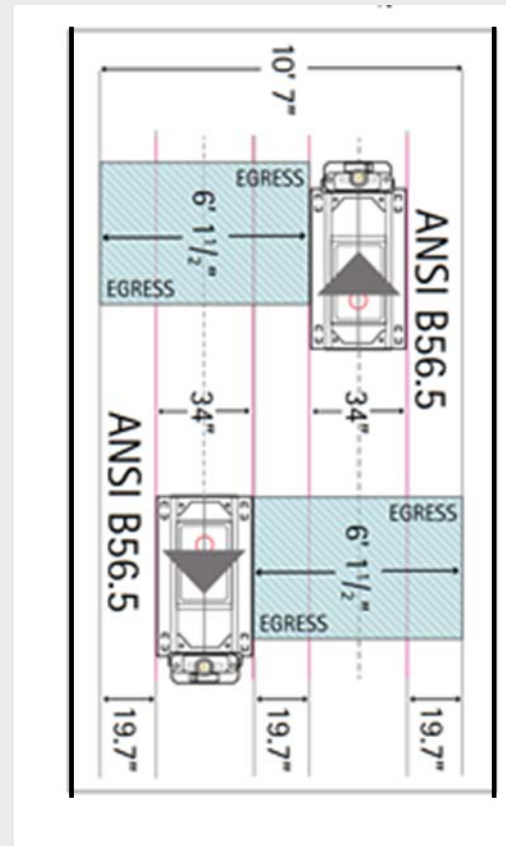
# Codes and Regulations – Current State

PTS	AGV/ATV/AMRs	PCS
<b>NFPA® 654</b> Standard For Pneumatic Conveying Systems	<b>ANSI/A3 R15.08-2-2023</b> -for IMRs (Industrial)  <b>ANSI B56.5/RIA 15.8</b>  <b>HCAI- PIN 69.09-03-2020</b> State of California AGV Guidelines	<b>NFPA® 82</b> Standard on incinerators and Waste and Linen Handling Systems and Equipment

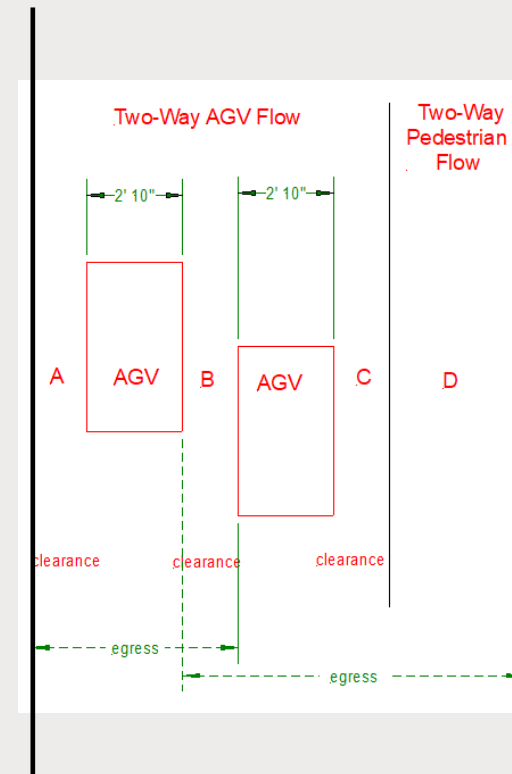
# Service Corridor Widths



8' Patient Floor Corridor



10'7" Service Corridor



12' Service Corridor

- Layout (one way/Two way)
- Volumes
- Schedules

**Industry Guidelines** –American National Standards (ANSI) and their guideline B56.5 - Safety Standard for Driverless vehicles

**Safety Concerns** – about the mingling of pedestrian (staff and patient) traffic with an AGV/AMR

**Emergent Event Concerns** – such as a fire or other emergency where traffic patterns are altered temporarily






- **Corridor width**
- **Separation of Clean and Soiled**
- **1-way versus 2-way flows**
- **Pathways**

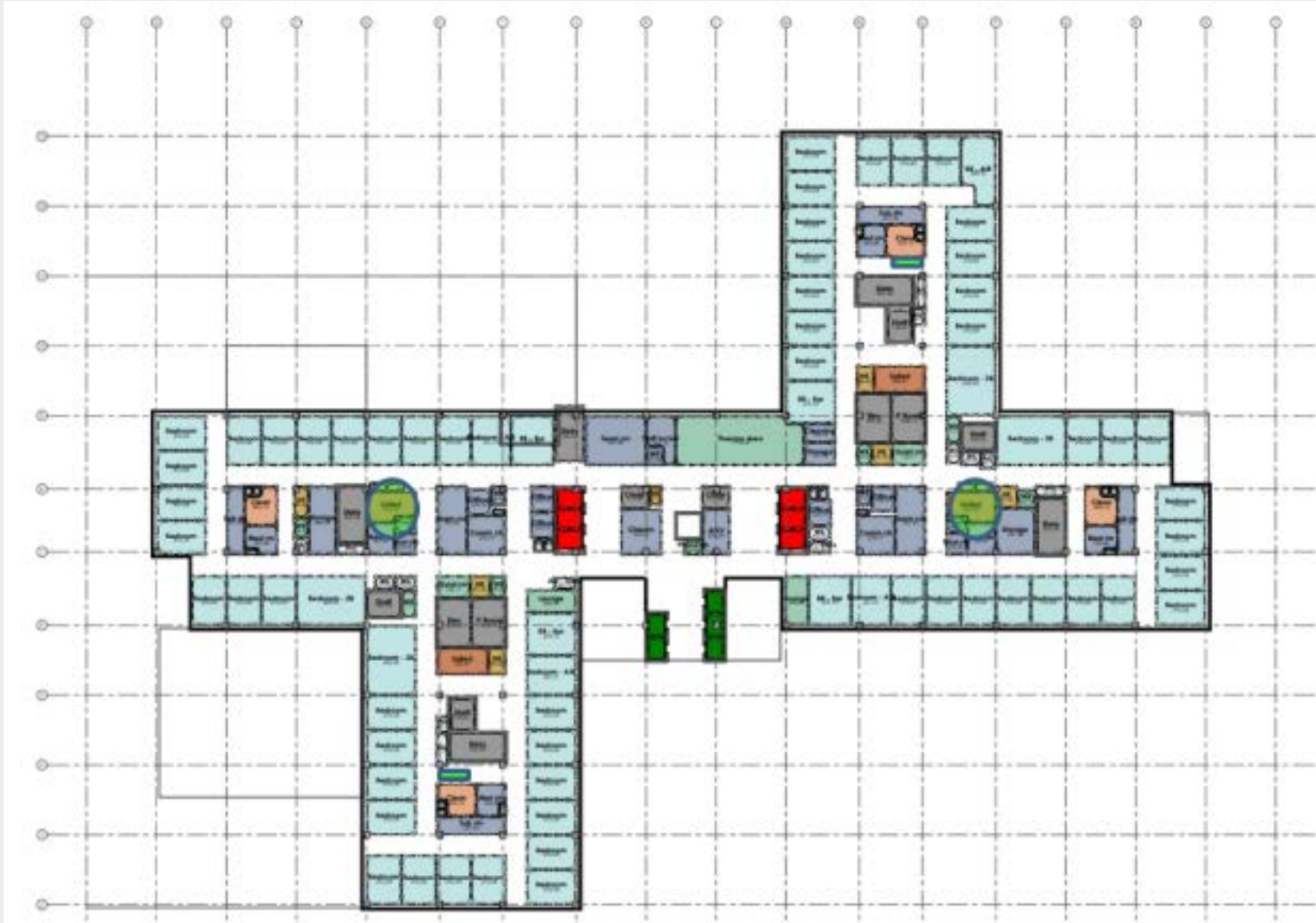
- Circles are preliminary number of carts (based upon **1,500 per day to illustrate order of magnitude**)

- Clean flows (including patient meal collection) **(784)**.

 Soiled linen and all waste (706).

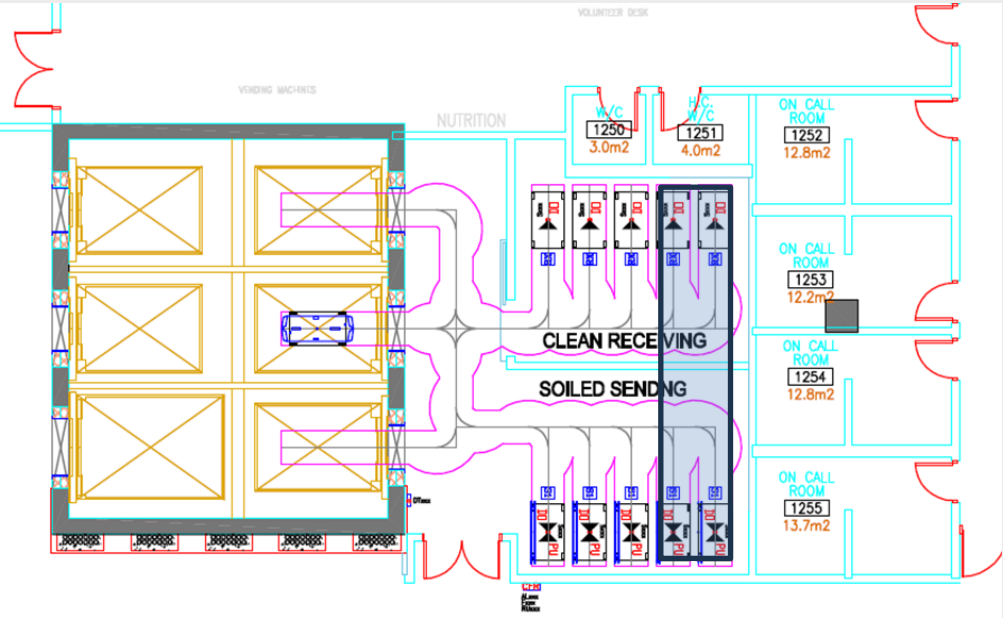
 Green are the source/destinations.

# Last 100 feet - Corridor Widths



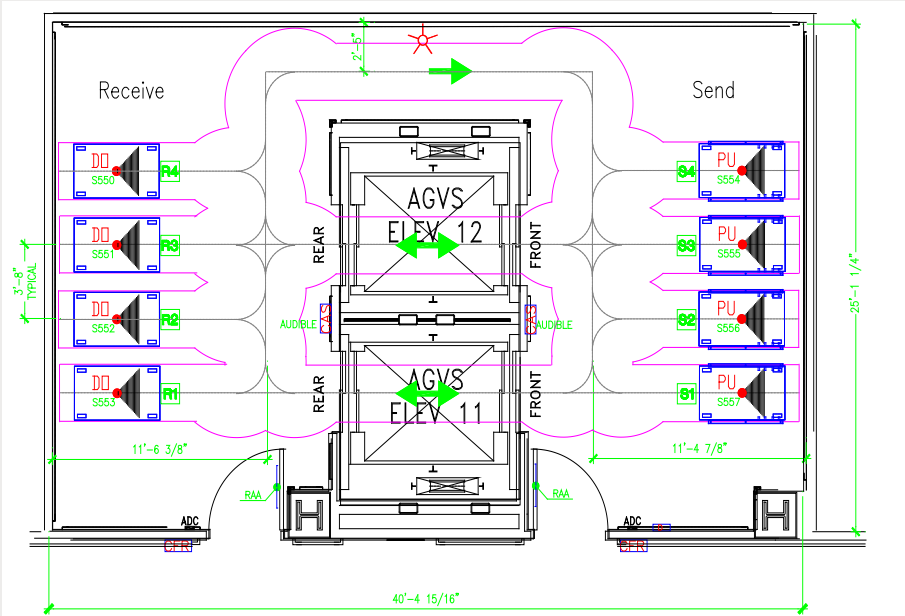
8- foot corridors on patient floors may be sufficient depending on projected volume at any given hour. In this example, **maximum of 2 vehicles during any 15 min interval**

# Elevator waiting lobby configurations



Single Side Access

## Ideal/Preferred



Pass Through Access – **Saves up to 40 seconds per trip**

# How - A Case Business Study





# South Niagara Hospital – Ontario, Canada



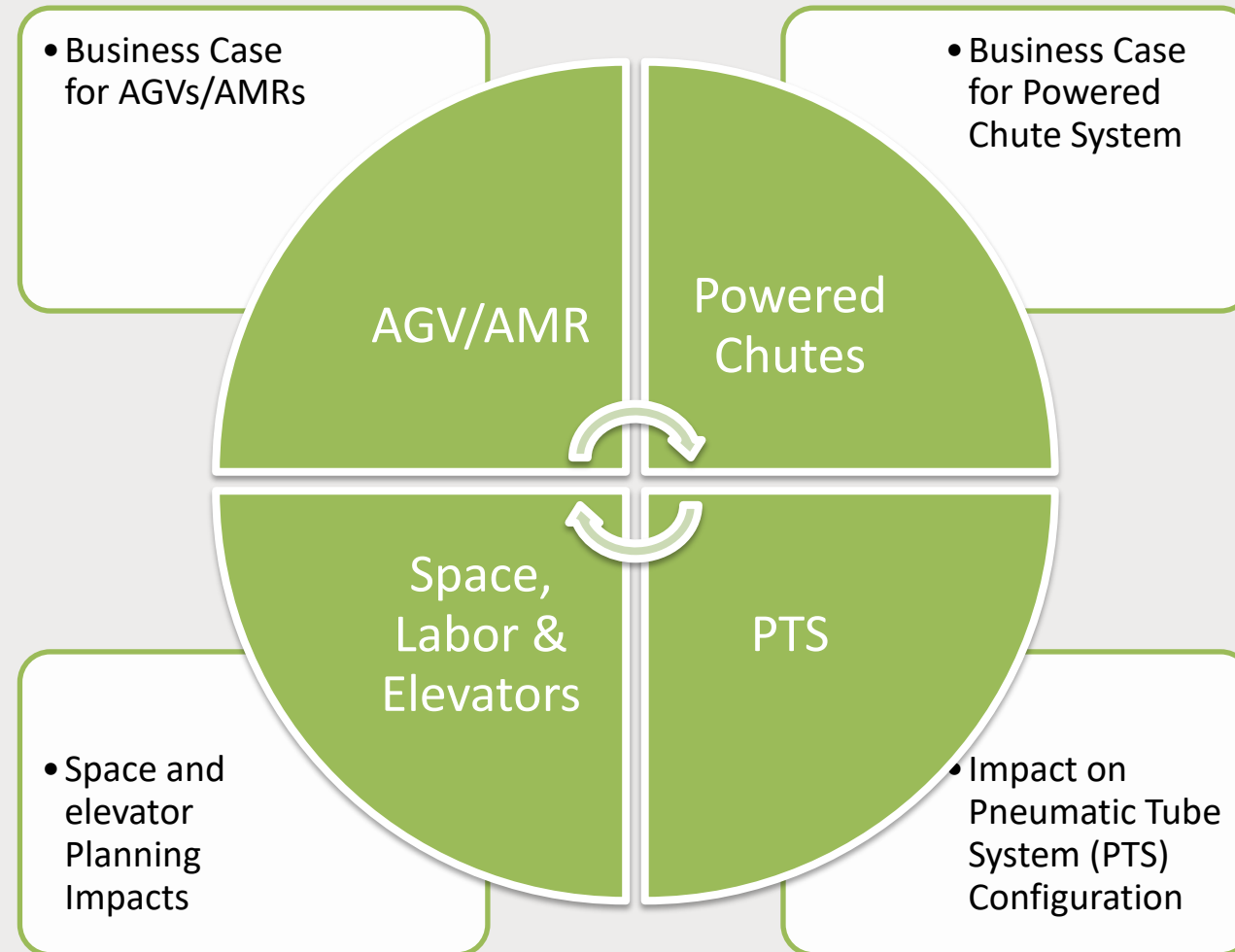
1.2MM SQFT, 469 Beds - Designed by Stantec

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# Key Objectives

## AGV/AMRs

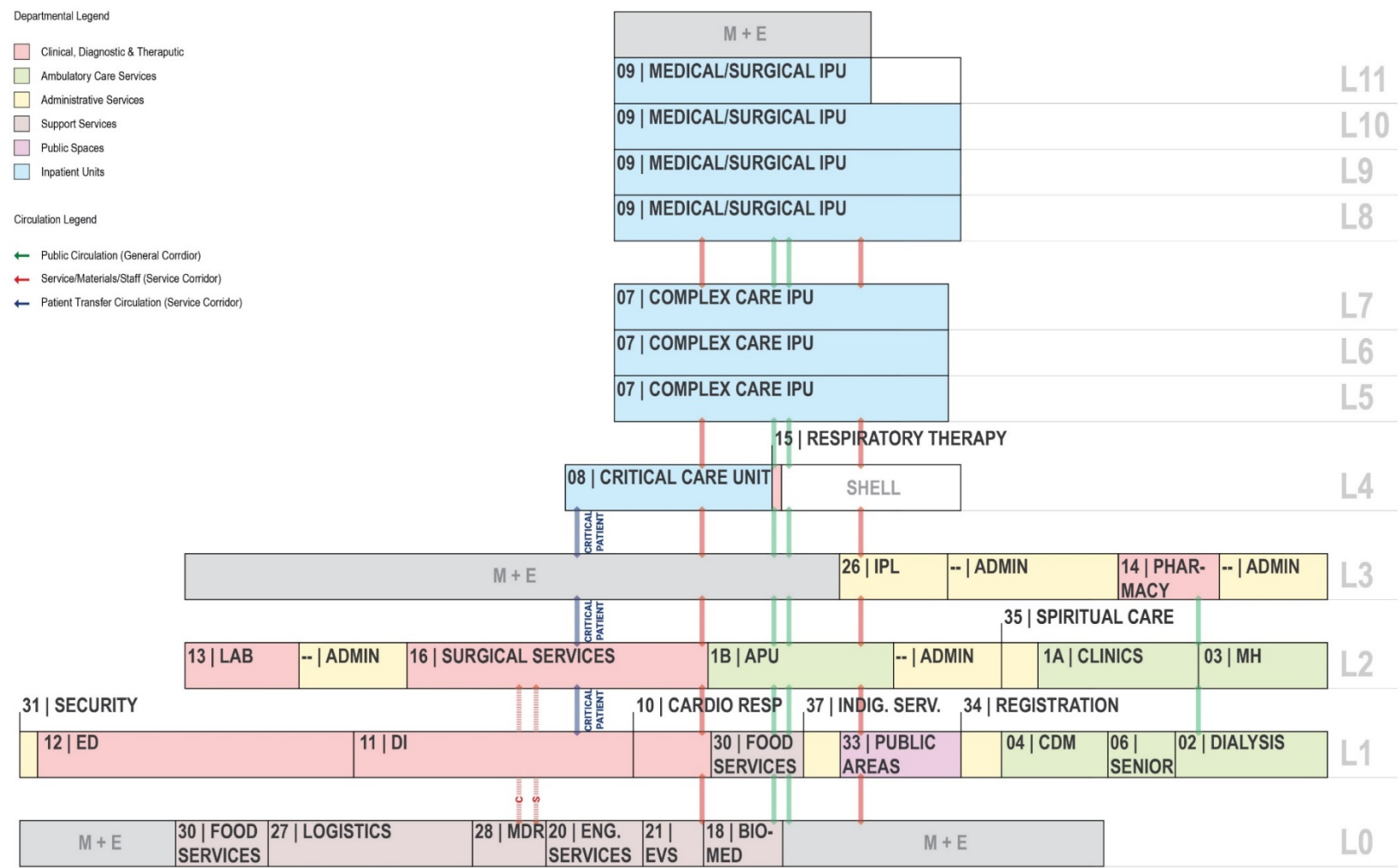
- Impact on Elevator counts
- Dedicated elevator or shared with other service elevators
- Size of the AGV lobby
- Size of corridors
- Service level planning
- Implementing now or planning for future



## Powered Chutes

- Impact on Elevator counts
- Fire rating
- Stacking and location of Chutes
- Service level planning
- Acoustical issues

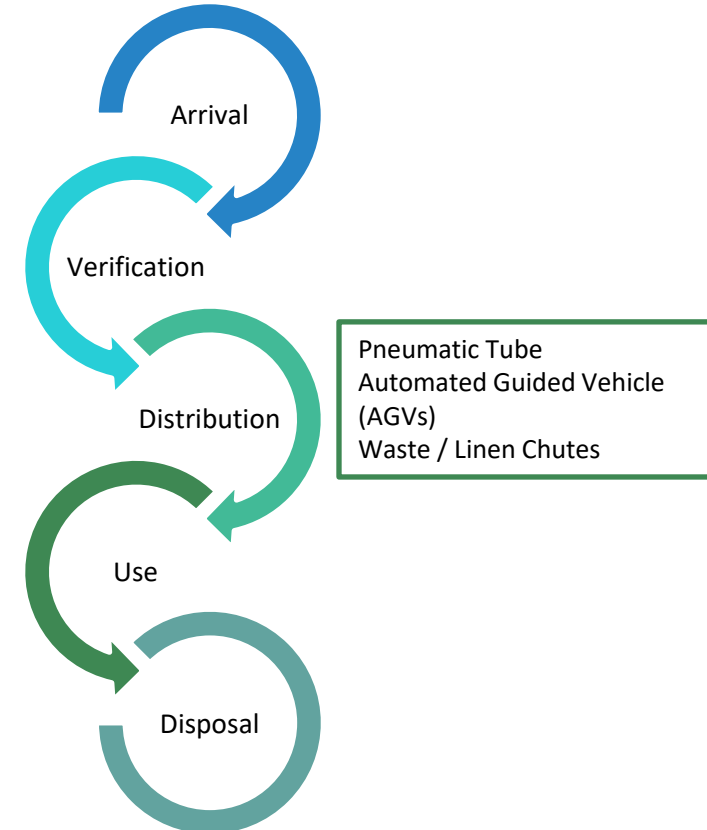
# Stacking Diagram





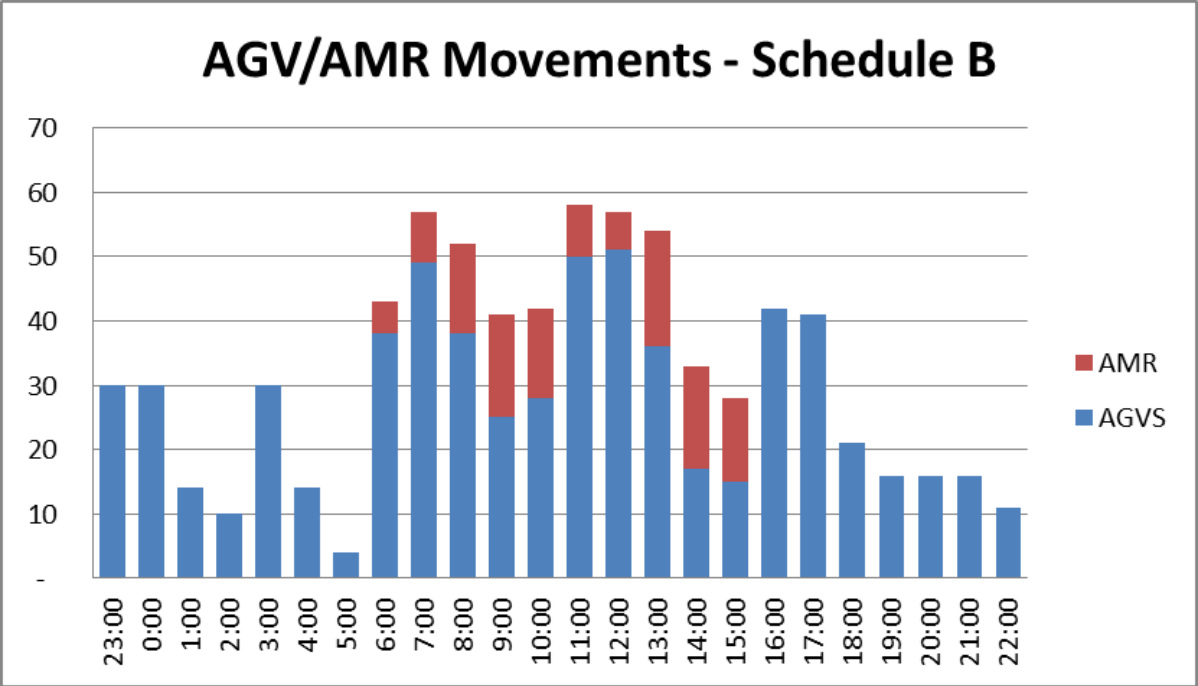
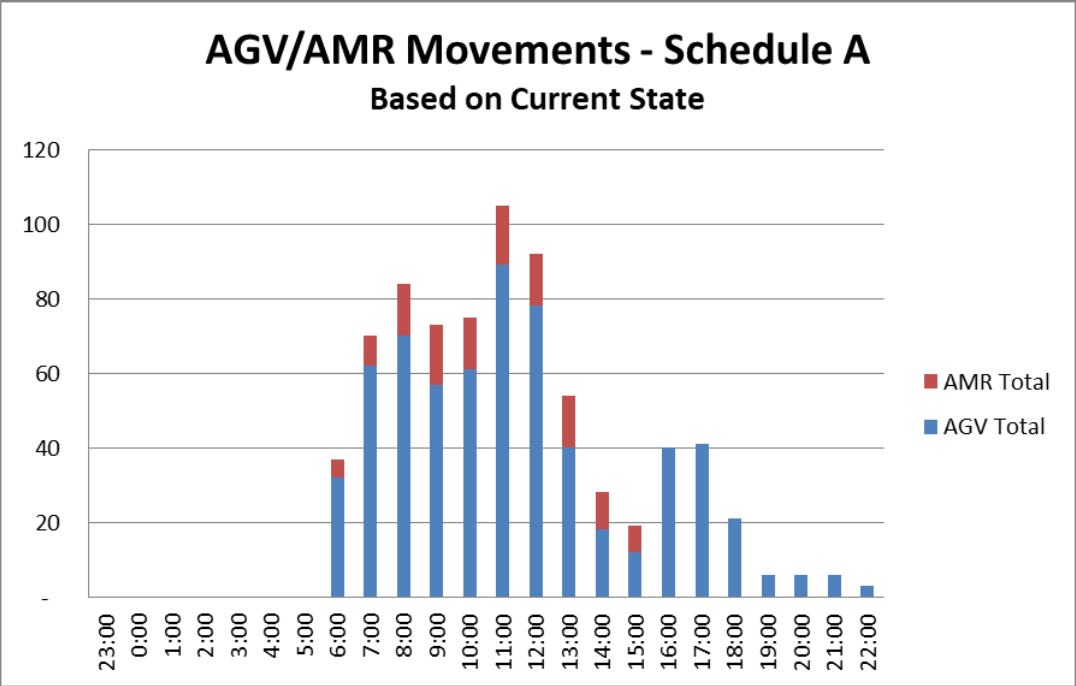
# Flow of Supplies – Clean & Soiled Flows

- Linen
- Consumable Supplies
  - Just In Time
  - Direct Orders
  - Medical Gases
  - Dialysis Supplies
  - Courier / Mail
- Hazardous Supplies
- Lab / Pharmaceutical Supplies (refrigerated)
- Waste:
  - Garbage
  - Recycling – cardboard
  - Recycling – other (plastics, organics)
  - Biohazardous waste
- Pandemic / Disaster Supplies
- Staff Uniforms



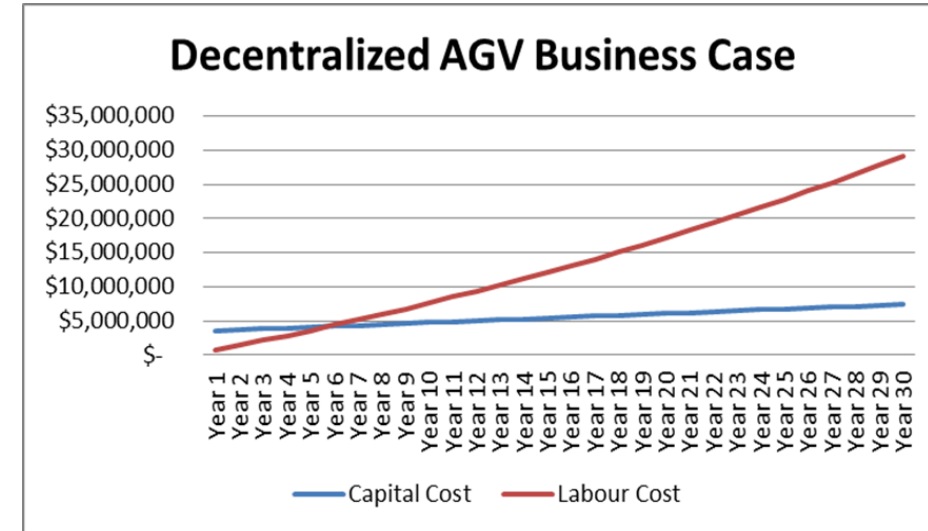
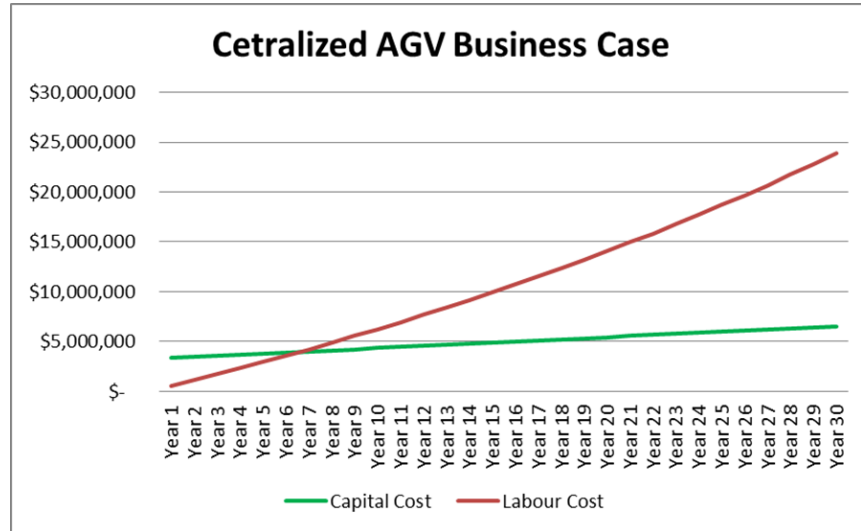


# Movement Summary Example



By moving the JIT and linen deliveries to the 3<sup>rd</sup> shift Peak hour was **reduced from 110 carts (Schedule A) to 55 carts (Schedule B)**

# Business Case Summary



Summary of Scenarios																	
Scenario				Logistics	EVS/Hsk	EVS / Clean Linen	EVS/Soiled Linen	EVS/Waste	Food Service	Pharmacy	Lab	MDR	Vehicles	Capital	Annual	Cummulative	Breakeven
														Costs	Maintenance	Savings	Year
														(\$M)	(\$K)	(\$M)	(years)
A-1	Centralized			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	3.3	110	17.4	7
A-2	Decentralized			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	17	3.5	135	21.4	6

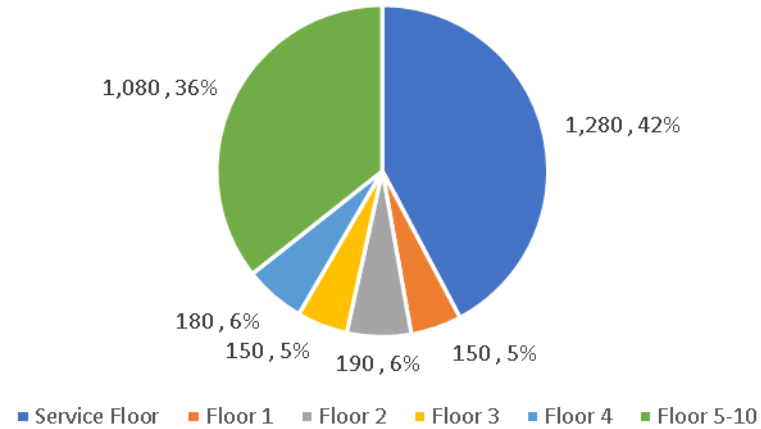
**Positive business case AGV/ARM** with 6 year breakeven period with total savings of **\$21.7MM**

**Negative Business case for powered chutes** due to longer than acceptable breakeven period .

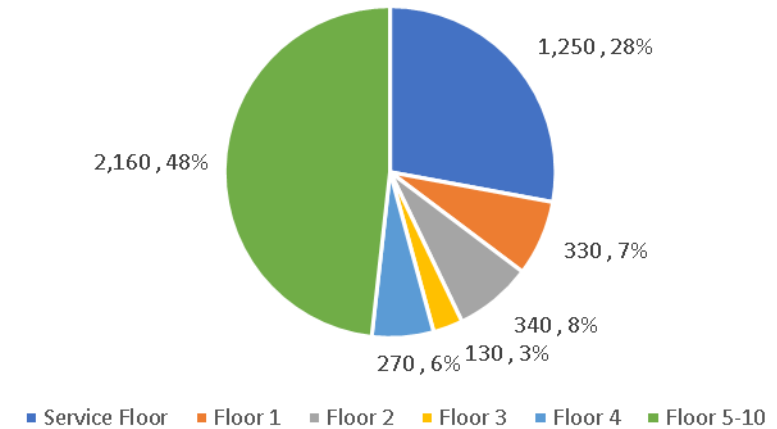
Additional savings of **\$250K** were identified by **reducing 10 PTS stations** with use of AMRs instead of PTS

# AGV/AMR Space Summary – Centralized Vs Decentralized

AGV/AMR NSF by Floor- Centralized



AGV/AMR Nsf by Floor- Decentralized



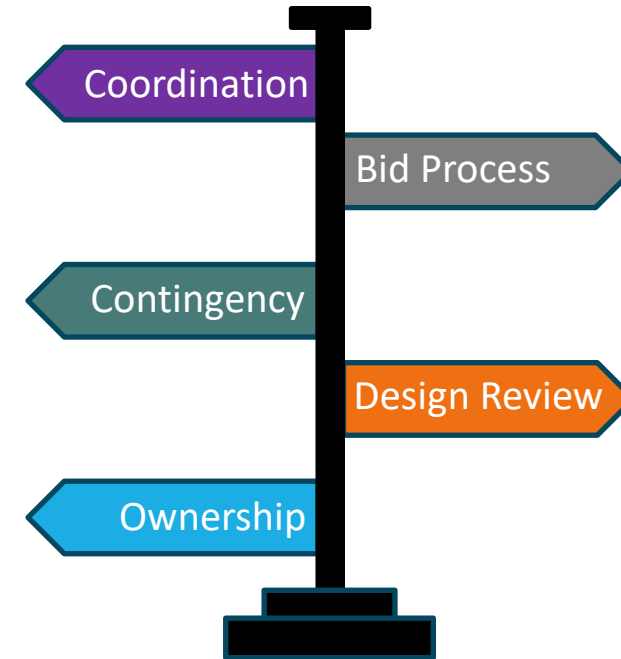
	Centralized	Decentralized
Floors	AGV/AMR Nsf	
Service Floor	1,280	1,250
Floor 1	150	330
Floor 2	190	340
Floor 3	150	130
Floor 4	180	270
Floor 5-10	1,080	2,160
Total	3,030	4,480

For a 1.2MM SQFT facility, total technology space for centralized delivery is **.25%** and **.37%** for decentralized delivery

Originally 1250 SQFT programmed for AGV maintenance; only 300 SQFT needed for AGV maintenance shop

# Post Business Case – Key Considerations & Lessons Learned

- A large amount of **coordination is required for the installation, commissioning, and operations** of the AGV/AMR
- **Contingency planning and risk analysis** is needed to address changes past the business case analysis
- **A Sponsor need to be included from the beginning**, and not assigned the program during the transition phase (move-in)
- As the AGV/AMR are used by many departments, **who is the owner of the AGV / AMR?** It will vary from hospital to hospital



**Retention of planning and design knowledge inside the hospital organization is recommended**

- **Vendor Bid process**
  - Pre-qualified Vendors
  - Most current technology
  - **Post installation issues with existing installations**
  - **Life cycle (Equipment renewal)**
  - Interfacing with other systems
- **Design review by agnostic SME**
- Intelligent hospital system compatibility
- **Leasing options with ability to upgrade equipment**



# Session Summary

- ✓ Regardless of size of facility, consideration for Logistics Automation for **all upcoming Healthcare Facility Projects supported by a robust business case** is recommended(Ideally before functional planning stage).
- ✓ **Use of Autonomous Navigation** powered by **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** will continue to **reduce technology related space needs**.
- ✓ **Healthcare readiness** is a critical factor in selecting a right technology
- ✓ Technology alternatives will continue to get **cheaper, faster and safer**.
- ✓ Interfacing of **Automation with Intelligent hospital systems** will aid improving **employee safety and productivity**

# Questions and Answers



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## Upcoming Events

- FPC Seminar September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- AMFP Workshop Chicago- November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## Logimaxx Facilities Planning

