

Molecular Research Company  
Cambridge, MA



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## Case Study:

# Lab Relocation Project



## Testimonial

*"Each service manager clearly communicated his/her plans and executed on-time and within the discussed budget. [...]"*

*"From the pre-move planning, to the final environmental risk assessment, your service teams helped us to maximize productivity during the process and reduce down-time. [...]"*

*"Your experience, talent, and approach truly helped us."*

*~Associate Director of Procurement & Facilities*

## Highlights:

- 20,000 chemicals packaged in 6 days
- All state and city permits and OSHA ER plan for new space secured by Triumvirate
- 10,000 square feet of research space and animal facility space decontaminated to ANSI standards
- <1 day of researcher down-time

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## Situation

A molecular drug-research company sought to move its headquarters from Cambridge, Massachusetts to an alternate location. The facility housed 35 employees and 10,000 square feet of chemistry and biological research labs as well as a large animal facility. Months of relocation planning would have to be orchestrated in one week of actual move-time. In addition to managing ongoing research and minimizing down-time, there were legal and environmental lease-related risk drivers that required the space to be decontaminated and certified as “clean” before the end of the lease agreement. Faced with a multi-phase project that required coordination of 100 contract employees to move the research materials, decontaminate the space, and provide environmental assessment documentation all within 7 days, the research company reached out to its onsite EHS provider, Triumvirate Environmental, to manage the project in its entirety.

## Action

Triumvirate took over the lab relocation with the ability to tackle from three different angles: laboratory pack and move services, decontamination services, and plan and permit services. Our onsite support services, field services, and technical services all joined forces, with Triumvirate’s regional life science director as the manager of all project phases. Prior to the move itself, Triumvirate’s consulting team worked with the research company’s director of operations to set up all of the environmental, health, and safety permits and plans required to operate a new research facility safely and compliantly. This included obtaining all of the required state and city permits, as well as developing new OSHA and emergency response plans for the new space.

As a part of the physical move, chemicals in the laboratory were categorized into two categories: those which had expired, and those which were relevant to current research. Those chemicals to be disposed of were lab-packed by Triumvirate’s environmental specialists, and those to continue on to the new facility were similarly packed in drums, but transported to the new location instead of being sent off for incineration or landfill. Once the hazardous materials were removed from the facility, the field services team decontaminated each lab surface, including bench tops, drawers, fume hoods, and floors. The debris from the facility was then loaded onto Triumvirate trucks for end-disposal. On the heels of the decontamination team were Triumvirate’s technical services team, which certified that the labs were clean and collected data for the lab closure report.

## Result

In 6 days 8,000 chemicals from the organic chemistry lab were packaged and sent for disposal while 12,000 chemicals were moved to the new lab location. The 10,000 feet of research space and the animal facility were decontaminated to ANSI standards as well as the lease requirements. The closure report helped to close the loop and eliminate any environmental risk from the previous operations. Overall, the financial and research costs of the move were minimized by reducing down-time and maximizing pre-planning procedures. Due to Triumvirate’s thorough EHS preparation, one researcher was able to continue conducting her research up until the morning of the move and then resume her research later that afternoon when the chemicals were safely delivered to the new site.

