

Oak Ridge Pharmacy DEA Drug Storage Cage [Case Study]

The Smart Choice – An Easy Call

When Oak Ridge Pharmacy needed a DEA pharmaceutical storage cage, they knew to call their local material handling distributor, and they knew to call WireCrafters. WireCrafters is the leading manufacturer of woven and welded wire partitions in the United States. WireCrafters DEA Drug Storage Cage application is one of the original reasons that WireCrafters has become a leader in the wire partition industry.

DEA Compliant Drug Storage Cages

Oak Ridge Pharmacy's pharmaceuticals, by law, must be secured in a wire partition cage that is in compliance with the Drug Enforcement Administration's standards. WireCrafters DEA storage cages and partitions meet the US Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) requirements for physical security of Schedule III through V controlled substances as outlined in Title 21 CFR Sections 1301.72-



1301.76 physical security controls. This drug storage application of WireCrafters wire partitions is ideally suited for pharmacies, pharmaceutical companies, medical facilities, drug distribution centers, record storage areas, drug warehouses, and much more.

What Makes A DEA Cage Compliant?

DEA approved storage cages have several requirements that differ them from typical tool and maintenance storage cages. All doors must be self-closing and self-locking. Hinge doors are outfitted

with commercial hydraulic door closers. The standard WireCrafters mortise lock meets the DEA's requirements. Sliding doors up to 80 square feet in size are counterbalanced with counterweights for easy operation. The slide door is pulled open and then the counterweights will bring the door back to the closed and locked position. Again the standard mortise lock is installed. For slide doors over 80 square feet, WireCrafters will provide an electric door opener for ease of operation. This door features a timer and an electric eye for safety.

In a DEA approved storage application, wire partition panels must be flush to the floor. Only the doors are allowed a small clearance from the floor to allow them to operate freely. Wire cages must be constructed with wire mesh ceiling panels; otherwise the drug storage cage must go all the way up to the existing roof structure.

The final requirement is taken care of by the on site installer. All hardware must be brazed or pinned. Most people simply tack weld all the nuts to the bolts so the cage cannot be disassembled.

What Makes WireCrafters the Best?

Because of the design of our standard wire partition system, choosing WireCrafters is a simple choice. Our tubular post uprights have a welded baseplate rather than a floor socket like our competition. We simply pre-drill the post so that the panels mount flush to the floor. All of our installation and assembly hardware is already on the inside of the cage and is therefore secure from the outside; whereas our competitors' hardware is accessible from the outside of the cage. The DEA has commented in the past their appreciation of the added security that a WireCrafters Drug Storage Cage provides.

Another Secure, Compliant Cage & Another Happy Customer

Oak Ridge Pharmacies' Pharmaceutical Storage Cage has a self-closing, self-locking hinge door, and the panels sit flush to the floor as outlined by the DEA requirements. The cage was equipped with a wire mesh ceiling since their cage did not need to run up to the existing structure. Their material handling company's installation met the DEA's requirements. When they were asked why they went with WireCrafters over other options on the market, their response was simple: "We went with the best."