

## SUCCESS STORY

# Washington Hospital

### Industry:

Health Services

### Location:

Fremont, CA

### Reusables Used:

Sharps containers



### Company Snapshot:

Washington Hospital is a 359-bed acute-care hospital serving Alameda County since 1948. Typically treats more than 50,000 ER patients and performs more than 4,000 inpatient and outpatient surgeries per year.

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**Before:** Single-use sharps containers expose workers to needle-stick injuries when full; containers are disposed of with contents at hazardous waste facility.



**After:** Installed 478 reusable sharps containers. Outside vendor collects reusable containers when full. Sharps are disposed of and containers are sanitized and returned to service.

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### Results:

- ✓ 9.1 tons of waste diverted from incineration annually
- ✓ Improved worker safety
- ✓ 2010 StopWaste Business Efficiency Award winner



Left to Right: Paul Kelley, Director of Biomedical Engineering and Green Initiative; Kathy Fox, Green Initiative Intern; Kris LaVoy, Chief of Compliance; Yvonne Dobbenga-Rhodes, Clinical Nurse Specialist

**RECYCLING & COMPOSTING**  
**OVER 100 TONS**  
**EACH YEAR**

**Congratulations, Washington Hospital Healthcare System** for preventing waste with reusable produce totes and sharps containers, and for collecting recyclable and compostable materials hospital-wide. These are just a few of many practices your team has put in place to cut costs, reduce waste, and protect the environment.

 Washington Hospital Healthcare System

 **STOP WASTE**  
PARTNERSHIP

2010 BUSINESS EFFICIENCY AWARD WINNER  
Presented by the StopWaste Partnership

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**EIGHT COMPANIES BECAME CHAMPIONS THIS YEAR. WILL YOURS BE NEXT?**