

# FROM HERE TO THERE: PLANNING THE LOGISTICS OF CENTRALIZATION

Surgical Instrument Centralization Expert

# FIRST CASE



Bryan Stuart | National Director  
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*First Case Surgical Instrument Centralization Expert™:*

## FROM HERE TO THERE: PLANNING THE LOGISTICS OF CENTRALIZATION

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It can be difficult to transport soiled trays from one location and receive sterile trays back, especially when trying to maximize availability, reduce system stress, and effectively manage inventory and distribution costs.

This specific area can be coined 'one of the most misunderstood aspects of any centralization initiative', as the number of moving parts and variables is often too great to accurately utilize existing resources.

Critical logistics to consider when planning for centralization include:

·Transportation - How will the trays be transported from one location to another? What are the transportation times and costs associated with the process?

·Inventory Management - How will inventory be managed between locations? What processes need to be in place to reduce discrepancies, ensure accuracy, and track usage?

·Equipment - What equipment will be needed at each location to process trays successfully?

·Staffing - What type of staffing levels are needed to ensure that the necessary work is completed in a timely fashion?

·Safety - What safety protocols and procedures need to be in place to ensure the safe transport of materials between locations?

There can be a lot to manage and keep synchronized to avoid downtime at any portion of the process. For example, the start time of the reprocessing center significantly impacts how long it will be before sterile items are returned. If you start too early, there are no returns to process, or inventory needs to be staged to "smooth" the reprocessing cycle. If you start late, you could be under a lot of pressure to finish in time for the next day's case schedule, which might not be realistic.

Uncovering available data to help determine when the reprocessing facility should start and how much inventory will be needed for the new process can boost the success of your centralization initiative.

Have more questions for this expert? Contact Bryan at [bryan.stuart@aesculapusa.com](mailto:bryan.stuart@aesculapusa.com)

*First Case Surgical Instrument Centralization Expert™ Biography:*

# BRYAN STUART

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Bryan Stuart, CCSVP, has over 30 years of experience in the medical field and 13 years of operational experience in an FDA regulated environment as a third party processor of surgical linens and instrumentation. From this, Bryan has developed keen insights into commercially managed reprocessing facilities. Bryan has also provided third party management of SPDs. He has extensive experience in hospital supply chain management and delivery of durable goods, custom procedure trays (CPT) and surgical supply single-pull products ranging from bulk, Just In Time (JIT), and off-site prepared Case Carts. For the last 8 years, Bryan has provided consulting services to hospitals to improve processes and instrument tray streamlining. His solutions are driven by hands-on set reviews and data driven solutions bringing the clinical and processing teams together for a mutually beneficial rationalization of instrument trays and process improvements.

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