



STAR RESEARCH FACILITY

PHARMACEUTICAL & SCIENCE

Key Figures

Chemours Discover Hub Size

312,000 sq. ft

Researchers and Scientist Housed

300+

Individual Laboratories

130+

Mobilized Expertise

Design-Assist and Manufacturing

Developing a complete utility solution with turnkey installation.

Introduction

A Modular Central Utility Plant for Chemours Discovery Hub

What can be described as a complex project, the construction of Chemours' 312,000 sq. ft research facility on the University of Delaware's Science Technology and Advanced Research (STAR) Campus came with a very tight schedule.

To meet their client's strict timeframe, IMC Construction, the project's GC / CM, considered offsite construction and the modularization of certain components for the Chemours Discovery Hub. Attributed to their positive previous experiences with modular construction, IMC subcontracted the Central Utility Plant to Systecon, an EQUANS company.

Customer Challenges

Providing the Resources Needed to Meet a Tight Schedule

Looking at ways of incorporating modular into the build and providing the resources needed that would meet the client's schedule played in the decision to modularize the facility's Central Utility Plant (CUP). Other deciding factors included the ability to meet schedule, quality, and affordability.

Systecon's Response

Designing a Complete Utility Solution Was a Collaborative Effort

Early engagement in the design-assist process was key in developing a modularization plan and scope for Chemours' CUP to support laboratory and office space.

The project consisted of the CUP, modular air handling systems with dedicated hot water and humidification systems, and modular indoor corridor pipe rack systems to support laboratory and office space.

In a collaborative effort, using Consulting Engineer, NV5's design requirements and IMC's desire for modularization, Systecon developed a complete utility solution that included chilled water, condenser water, process water, high pressure steam, low pressure humidification, and hot water with associated power distribution and controls. EQUANS sister company, H.T. Lyons, developed a complete corridor pipe rack system for indoor installation.

Results

The prime objective was to meet the client's schedule so that the company could move-in on time. Construction of Chemours' new \$150-million research facility began in late 2017 and was completed in December 2019. Staying on budget and on time were among the many benefits of modular, which shorter lead time and turnkey installation of a modular utility solution helped accomplish.

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