



## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

Want to thermoform the entire end-cap to an RV? One of the country's leading hospital housekeeping management companies was developing a new version of its industry-leading remote vacuum cleaning system.

The company had always worked with sheet metal in the past, but when we introduced them to the capabilities of thermoforming, they quickly fell in love with the process. We worked with their industrial designer to develop a highly cosmetic, thermoformed enclosure that melds seamlessly with existing injection-molded, blow-molded and sheet-metal parts.

MATERIAL	.250" LOW GLOSS ABS
PROCESS	PRESSURE FORMING
INDUSTRY	MEDICAL/HOUSEKEEPING EQUIPMENT

## **PROJECT DETAILS**

Functionally, this project needed to integrate an industrial vacuum and a UV sterilization compartment into the medical housekeeping cart. Aesthetically, we needed to develop a distinctive style that would help the cart to stand out in a sea of boring beige hospital appliances.

The cart's Large Hose and Cord Housing is pressure formed using a machined aluminum, temperature-controlled mold. Both side walls of the cavity contain undercuts and are cylinder-driven to allow molded side wall features as well as perimeter undercuts to enable the part to release from the tool.

The sharp details on front surfaces allowed for a molded-in product name and a hose and cord port. Starting with .250" Low Gloss ABS allowed for a rigid part and a nice surface finish to match with existing plastic parts. With the advanced tooling, state-of-theart machinery and 6-axis robotic trim centers, we were able to mate our parts with the others precisely as they were designed to.

## Independent air quality experts refer to the vacuum as an "air scrubber."

In the completed product, the XRO-3 vacuum cart's insulated and quiet, 50-decibel vacuum draws dust and dirt particles from the hospital room and deposits them into the ULPA filter bag. The ULPA filter system retains 99.995% of particles 0.12 microns or larger, which is 1/100th the diameter of a human hair.

Today, the housekeeping cart and its vacuum is operating in hospitals across the country, reducing patient room air particle counts well below those achieved by traditional cleaning methods. So much so that independent air quality experts refer to the vacuum as an "air scrubber."