

### General Product Description

Concern over bio-terrorism is at an all-time high after recent anthrax mail attacks. Workers are afraid to open their mail. SafeMail™, a group of products designed to enhance mail safety, is now available!



*SafeMail Contained Mail Center*

AeroMed™ specializes in designing and supplying air purification systems for infectious disease control in health care facilities. AeroMed™ is now bringing the same risk reduction strategies to mail safety.

While no one should open mail that is considered suspicious, it is conceivable that "non-suspicious" mail may also be contaminated and that opening contaminated mail may not, therefore, always be avoidable.

The SafeMail™ CMC (Contained Mail Center) is a negative pressure containment room in which you may open mail. Concerns for mail center safety, relative to bio-terrorism, center on the possible presence of pathogens, such as anthrax or smallpox. These infectious pathogens can become airborne, infecting employees and contaminating facilities. Maintaining negative pressure in an incoming mail processing room will help to contain

airborne pathogens that may be present in the room. Negative pressure rooms help prevent contamination of other areas within the facility and are used extensively in medical facilities and laboratories to protect patients, visitors and employees from airborne pathogens. CDC guidelines for controlling the spread of airborne pathogens recommend negative pressure as an engineering control

### Applications

The SafeMail™ CMC may be used by facilities that are concerned with the safety of employees who open mail. Potential users include:

- Postal facilities
- Government institutions
- Television / Radio stations
- Newspapers/Magazines
- Military
- High Profile Corporations
- Utility companies
- Embassies
- Law Enforcement
- Insurance companies



### What is Negative Pressure?

A room that is at negative pressure has a lower pressure than adjacent areas, which keeps air from flowing out of the room and into adjacent rooms or areas.

Negative pressure is created when more air is exhausted from a room than is supplied to that room. The excess exhaust creates a pressure differential relative to surrounding areas which in turn draws air into the mail processing room. This inward flow of air helps to prevent airborne contaminants from leaving the room.

Negative pressure, however, *does not* protect people inside of the mail processing room! Additional engineering controls, such as recirculated AeroMed™ HEPA air purifiers or SafeMail™ containment hoods for opening mail, should be used to help protect employees within the negative pressure room.

### **Recommendations**

In the CDC Health Advisory issued 10/31/01 regarding protection of workers from exposure to anthrax when handling mail, the CDC stresses the importance of engineering controls.

*“Engineering controls can provide the best means of preventing worker exposure to potential aerosolized particles, thereby reducing the risk for inhalational anthrax, the most severe form of the disease.”*

Included in the GSA recommendations for Federal Mail Centers in Washington, DC is the following statement:

*“All but the smallest mail centers should be placed in enclosed rooms, with defined points of entry. Wherever the security assessment, mail volumes, and cost considerations make it appropriate, the mail center should have its own air handling and ventilation system, including HEPA filters in most cases”.*

### **Construction**

The SafeMail™ CMC is built using extruded aluminum framing. The lower wall panels,

exhausted from a room than is supplied to that ceiling panels and flooring are made from 1” thick insulated steel panels. Clear acrylic panels that are ¼” thick are used for the upper wall panels.



### **Room Sizes**

The SafeMail™ CMC is available in multiple sizes ranging from 8’ x 8’ up to 20’ x 20’. Specially configured rooms larger than 20’ x 20’ are available. Standard room height is 8’. Standard door width is 36”.

### **SafeMail™ CMC Options**

The SafeMail™ CMC may be provided as an unpopulated shell or may be ordered fully equipped.

Options include but are not limited to the following:

- Ante-rooms
- Electrical receptacles
- Lighting fixtures
- Heating and A/C
- AeroMed™ air purifiers for HEPA recirculation and or exhaust\*
- SafeMail™ containment hoods
- Envelope openers
- Sorting tables
- Sorting bins

\*HEPA exhaust units are required for creating negative pressure within the SafeMail™ CMC.

For more information on SafeMail™, please visit us on the WEB, [www.safemailsystems.com](http://www.safemailsystems.com) .

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