

**AZENTA**  
LIFE SCIENCES

# Tame Cold Storage Chaos

Unlock Sustainability with Better Storage Management

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# Azenta Life Sciences

Enabling Breakthroughs Faster through testing & managing high value **Biological Assets**



Discovery + Pre Clinical  
Studies to Clinical Trials & Development

## Asset Testing (Genewiz)

### Sanger Sequencing



### Next Generation Sequencing



### Gene Synthesis



LIMS for Multiomics Data Management

## Asset Management (Sample Management Solutions)

*Best Practice Assessments through Better Asset Management*

### Onsite Services



### Onsite Tools



### Offsite Sample Repository Services (SRS)



LIMS for Biological Asset Management

## Digital Ecosystem

# Did You Know That On Average...

- **16% - 26%** of research lab space is used for freezers and refrigerators
- Many lab freezers are only filled to **50%** of their capacity
- **<10%** of the items stored in lab freezers are accessed on a regular basis
- When evaluated, **<50%** of the items in lab freezers are considered “usable”
- Researchers waste **2 hours** per week on inefficient inventory management
- **<40%** of labs have the tools they need for optimal inventory management

[Calculate the Savings Available At Your Own Site](#)



## Cold Storage Realities: The Quiet Cost Center



# When Cold Storage Challenges are Addressed → ROI is Realized



Every organization evolves and faces challenges that unlock the ROI of better cold storage management. The question is not if they will occur, but when – and how prepared you are to capture the upside.

Proactive planning turns these risks into opportunities for savings, sustainability, and resilience.

## Challenges

### Cost Pressures

Funding Cuts, Patent Cliffs

### R&D Strategic Shifts

Site Consolidations, New Builds

### Mergers and Acquisitions

Storage capacity, inventory monitoring

### ESG Mandates

CO<sub>2</sub> emission

### Compliance Requirements

Human Subject Regulations,  
Licensed materials

### Business Continuity

Equipment failures, power outages, wildfires

## Value

Sample Safety

Cost Savings

Faster Time to Research

Lower Operating Expense

Sustainability Gains

Grant & Funding Wins

# Transforming Sample Management Workflows



Current State	Desired Future State
<b>Multiple inventory systems</b> , limited visibility and poor utilization of samples and other materials	—> <b>One compliant informatics solution</b> for visibility to be able to better manage samples & data
<b>Aging freezer infrastructure</b> with increased risk of failure	—> Optimize the <b>newer more reliable freezers</b> already owned reducing CAPEX
<b>Valuable real estate used</b> for archived collections with unwanted/unknown samples	—> Sample consolidation to assess a true sample inventory and <b>reduce freezer footprint</b>
<b>Scientists wasting time and money</b> trying to find samples and buying new ones already owned	—> <b>Refocus scientists' resources</b> back on to scientific research
<b>Disparate sample management</b> processes	—> <b>Consistent SOPs</b>

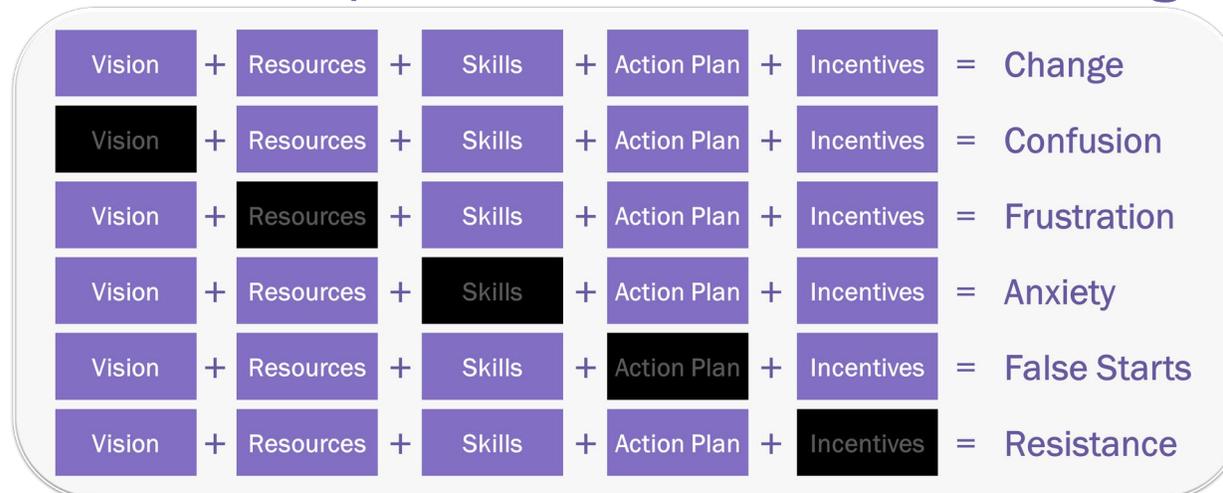
How do we get there?

# Manage the Culture Shift



- **Assess** the current situation
- Identify **value drivers** for lab personnel
- **Quantify** the need for change
- Define the **impact** it will have on the organization
- **Communicate the vision** and get buy in from leadership
- Assign **resources**: tools + systems + **skilled** people
- Develop and communicate the **action plan**
  - Schedule of activities
  - Standards to be implemented
  - Governance, KPIs & reporting cadence
  - **Incentives** for stakeholders

## Critical Components for Sustainable Change



# Azenta's Path to Better Storage Management

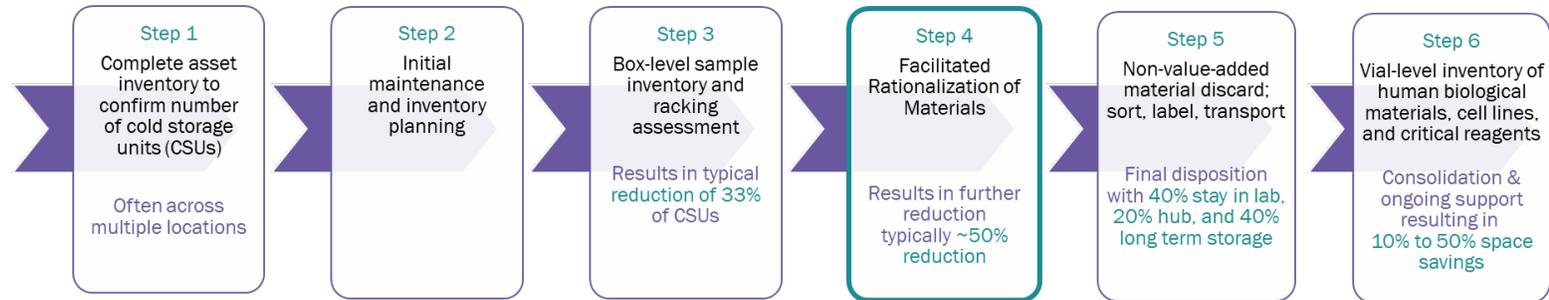


Formal Assessment of Customer Facilities

Survey Cold Storage Units      Interview Stakeholders      Formal Report

<p><b>54%</b> Average Capacity Use at Box/Rack Level</p> <p><b>67%</b> Space used in boxes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 52% in ULT</li> <li>• 83% in LN<sub>2</sub></li> </ul>	<p><b>350</b> Stakeholders Interviewed</p> <p><b>&gt;90%</b> Lack of Resources &amp; Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-tracking: 3% → 50%</li> <li>• ~30% have barcodes/scanners</li> </ul>	<p><b>100%</b> Opportunity to Save</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100's Thousands → Millions \$</li> <li>• CO<sub>2</sub>e of 100–1,000+ metric tons</li> </ul> <p><b>~50%</b> Stakeholders want structure &amp; empowerment</p>
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Gap Closure to Right Size Storage and Create Catalog of Materials In or Close to Labs



Implement Tools, Processes & Resources to Sustain Better Storage Management Fit-for-Purpose for Each Lab



# Continue to Manage the Culture Shift



“When I first heard about a freezer inventory, it really seemed like an insurmountable, daunting, impossible task...”

Your Technicians “must have the patience of saints. It’s really a tremendous accomplishment to have the freezers inventoried and it has enabled us to now do the easy part of sorting through the unclaimed items and clearing out what’s outdated or unidentifiable. We’ve been able to re-home some things with other team members and ensure we aren’t tossing out anything we might want to go back to.”

Pharma Scientist, Protein Engineering

## Culling Guide

Only keep samples or research materials if you can answer YES to all questions below OR If they are deemed rare/precious by management<sup>1</sup>

Human Biological Samples	Research Materials
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the label legible?</li> <li>If only a barcode is present on the tube, is it linked to identifiable information?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the label legible?</li> <li>If only a barcode or handwritten code is present on the tube, is it linked to identifiable information?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can the samples be linked to clinical data?</li> <li>Are the data of scientific importance for other studies that may be conducted?</li> <li>Is that data trustworthy (What QC parameters were used)?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is documentation pertaining to the material available (e.g., Certificate of Analysis, Package insert, SDS, License)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do the samples and purpose meet the definition of human subject research?</li> <li>Has the ICF been reviewed for a rare or broader than the original study use?</li> <li>Does ICF contain a provision beyond the original purpose of collection?</li> <li>Are there other provisions on use?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the material within the expiry date?</li> <li>Is any use permitted by the MTA or License agreement?</li> </ul>

**Discard<sup>3</sup>**

## Storage Options

Research samples will be stored in three locations. How to determine which is right for your items?

### Three Locations

OPTION A	OPTION B	OPTION C
<b>In the Lab</b> Use Daily/Weekly	<b>At the Local Core</b> Same Day Delivery	<b>At Azenta</b> 24-48 Hr. Delivery Ambient, +4, -20, -70, -80 & LN <sub>2</sub>

**Provide Easy to Navigate Keep/Discard Decision Guides Tailored to your Research Community**

- **Communicate** the action plan throughout the organization:
  - What is the benefit to them
  - When the project will occur as it relates to their lab
  - What resources are being provided
  - What is the scope and how does it impact their samples
  - How long will the inventory process take in their lab
  - How will they access and how long will it take
  - How to rationalize their samples and where to store them
- **Select Champions** for each Department/Lab
- Provide training sessions for each group
- Execute and monitor progress
- **Communicate the results regularly**

# Typical Better Storage Management Solution

## OPTION A: CUSTOMER SITE

Materials Used Daily/Weekly



## OPTION B: REGIONAL HUB

Materials That Need Same-Day Delivery



## OPTION C: LONG TERM STORAGE FACILITY

Materials That Need 24-72-Hour Delivery



Right size cold storage and increase utility through greater visibility and access

- Short-term **Customer-Site Services** with a mission of inventory and consolidation of cold storage units
- **Cryogenic Storage Systems** and **Carriers** to enable researchers to work efficiently
- **Informatics** and **Logistics/Transport Support**

- Long-term **Customer-Site Services** with a mission of sustaining efficient and visible storage in the lab for better compliance and researcher ease of access
- **Automated Sample & Biological Material Storage** that allow for maximum space efficiency and controlled access within your facility or at a repository near you

- Consolidate off-site storage to manage the full breadth of **Samples, Biological and Manufactured Material** to save valuable real estate that provides rapid retrieval and distribution at all temperatures
- **Informatics** and **Logistics/Transport Support**

# Case Studies

# Case Study: Moffitt Cancer Center



## The Goal:

Accommodate an **influx of new Principal Investigators** by expanding lab and storage capacity to support research growth.

## The Challenge:

- **Freezers scattered across departments**, with limited central oversight.
- **No standardized inventory system** — labs using ad hoc approaches (Excel, manual lists, or none)
- **Aging CSU fleet** with insufficient backup units and average utilization across the CSU fleet at **68%**

## The Solution:

**Assess | Rationalize | Centralize | Sustain**

- 539 of 582 CSU assessed
- 10 Faculty interviews
- Current state reporting & ROI calculation
- Plan and implement centralized inventory
- Identify and secure off-site storage options

## Impact

### Space & Operational Efficiency

Freed up previously occupied **ULT storage**, unlocking space for high-value research and revenue-generating activities

### Inventory Optimization

Initiated **center-wide freezer inventory management system** (FY26 – scheduled implementation)

### Stakeholder Alignment

**Leadership embraced the idea** of relocating long-term storage ULTs beyond immediate research facilities

### Business Continuity

**Operational agility with interim off-site cold storage.** 17 of the 582 CSU's relocated to Azenta's Cleveland location until the new facility is ready.

# Case Study: Cleveland Clinic



## The Goal:

Enable faster translation from lab discoveries to patient treatments across Clinic and partner networks. Secure grant funding that can make this translational research possible.

## The Challenge

Cleveland Clinic needed expanded capacity for biologic sample storage to accelerate translational research and discovery.

Existing infrastructure fragmented; limited storage hindered researchers' ability to efficiently study human tissue samples.

## The Solution

The Benchmark in Sample Management™ Right Here in Cleveland.

- 22,000 sq. ft. dedicated to cold/ultra-cold storage 400 unit capacity
- Managed onsite by Azenta ensuring secure, standardized sample collection, processing, and storage.
- ISO 9001:2015 certified
- CAP Biorepository Accreditation
- 24/7/365 Secure Storage

## Impact

### Accelerated Translational Research

Enhanced capacity and centralized storage enable researchers to more rapidly translate findings into patient care.

### Scalable, Standardized Sample Management

Streamlined sample handling, from collection to storage, supports partner institutions and scaling of high-value collections

### Stronger Grant Competitiveness

Compliant biorepository infrastructure and expanded storage capacity



# Case Study: Top 10 Biopharma Company



## The Goal:

Build a holistic, R&D-wide framework to manage the entire lifecycle of our biological sample collection in an efficient and compliant manner

## The Challenge:

- 1400 Freezers to be reduced by ~50% in 1yr
- Optimizing highly varied sample types & data (difficult!)
- 50% at MA sites not inventoried with remaining spread across 8+ disparate systems

## The Solution:

Consolidate 8 sites with 14 R&D groups to 1 facility.

Strategic planning, implementation, and change management for cold storage consolidation supporting high volume clinical research, CAP/CLIA lab services, and shipping

## Impact

(47%)

FREEZERS IN BOSTON FOR SHORT-MEDIUM TERM USE

(4%)

FREEZERS TO AZENTA LONG TERM STORAGE

(\$2.7M)

OPERATIONAL COST NET FREEZERS IN BOSTON SITE

(2.2K)

ANNUAL METRIC TONS OF CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS

*“Aiming to build a holistic, R&D-wide framework to manage the entire lifecycle of our biological sample collection in an efficient and compliant manner, Azenta accompanies every step of our transformation”*

- Global R&D Processes and Operations Leader

# Moving Towards Carbon Neutral: Results Achieved with Consolidation of 1,400 Units Across 8 Facilities



Freezer fleet optimization not only saves money – it delivers measurable **energy and sustainability gains** aligned to ESG goals

- CO<sub>2</sub> reduced annually
- Improved energy efficiency in cold storage fleets
- Reduced lab energy footprint
- Recovered space and lowered redundant freezer use
- Consolidated transport logistics  
Alignment with ESG mandates

**2.2K**

ANNUAL METRIC TON REDUCTION CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS WITH REDUCTION IN STORAGE FLEET AND ADDED TRANSPORT REQUIREMENTS



[View a Whitepaper Detailing this Project](#)

#### EQUIVALENT CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSION SAVINGS

-  **418 HOMES'** ELECTRICITY USE FOR 1 YEAR
-  **2,379,394 POUNDS** OF COAL BURNED
-  **4,979 BARRELS** OF OIL CONSUMED
-  **241,989 GALLONS** OF GASOLINE CONSUMED
-  **5,338,120 MILES** DRIVEN BY AN AVERAGE GASOLINE-POWERED PASSENGER VEHICLE

Source for CO<sub>2</sub>e Saving Equivalents: [Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator | US EPA](#)

# Realize Cold Storage Matters Across the Organization



Faster results. Measurable ROI. Lower risk.



## STORAGE SOLUTIONS

Empower scientists to streamline research, recover research time, reduce risk of sample loss, and support material handoffs and collaboration

## EFFICIENCY

Improve business continuity, utilize space efficiently, and reduce carbon footprint

## CONSOLIDATION

Mitigate vendor risk, strengthen compliance, and support ESG metrics and enterprise cost goals

## OPERATIONAL SAVINGS

Reduce operational expense and capital expenditures while optimizing labor resources

## ROI

Sponsor initiatives producing highest sample and drug development safety, researcher productivity, collaboration, and lowest cost of operation

# What would your organization's savings look like with Better Cold Storage Management?

Calculate Your ROI:



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Website: [<https://www.azenta.com/contact-us>]