

IRN - The Reuse Network

26 Pleasant St. Suite 2a
Concord NH 03301
603-229-1962



Case Study in Reuse Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri

Overview

RestEASY LLC is undertaking major renovations of U.S. Army guest lodging at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. Lendlease is their construction contractor. One recent phase of the project called for demolition of eleven furnished buildings. Rather than dispose of the furniture, Lendlease and RestEASY contacted IRN to facilitate reuse.

The eleven two-story structures contained a total of some 275 one- and two-bedroom suites, each with a front and rear entrance. The project was scheduled to take place over five days in February. IRN completed the project a day ahead of schedule, filling nine 53-foot trailers. In all, the project kept more than 145,000 pounds of furnishings from being disposed in Missouri landfills.

Composition & Quantity

Item	Count	Item	Count
Desk	253	Caster Chair	185
Dresser	305	Lounge Chair (Recliner)	202
Dining Table	282	Sleeper Sofa	53
Dining Chair	469	Kitchen Range/Oven	52
Nightstand or End Table	162	Other	24
		Total	1,987

Challenges

Planning and Organization. This was the first experience with reuse for Ft. Leonard Wood and for RestEASY. Lendlease Environmental Manager Tony Douglas deserves particular credit for being supportive of reuse and gaining the support of others, when an alternative course would have been to let the furniture be destroyed when the buildings were demolished.

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26 Pleasant St, Suite 2A Concord, NH 03301 **Tel:** 603.496.0749 **Email:** elennon@ir-network.com **Web:** www.irnreuse.com

Base Access. Project staff included nearly two dozen movers and drivers from multiple firms, each of whom needed security clearance. Additionally, trucks arriving and leaving the post were required to adhere to a strict schedule, which in turn necessitated careful balancing and oversight of the moving crews.

Location. Ft. Leonard Wood is in a sparsely populated area, far from trucking lanes, in a region where trash disposal costs are low. IRN had to pay close attention to every cost from start to finish, to assure that reuse was cost-effective.

Keys to Success

Lendlease and RestEASY Commitment. RestEASY and Lendlease took a chance on reuse, which was unfamiliar to both. Tony Douglas of Lendlease took the lead in supporting reuse as the option most consistent with Lendlease's commitment to sustainability.

Communication and Planning. There were many parties involved in this project, many complicated issues, and many many steps that had to be coordinated and completed – contracting, security, access, scheduling, trucking. Frequent communications, comprehensive documentation, and persistent followup were essential to keeping all parties and tasks on track.

Efficient Moving and Loading. There were eight different load points, often with two trucks being loaded at the same time at different locations. The ReStores had specific requests for particular inventory items. And there was a very strict schedule for truck arrivals and departures. Under IRN's onsite supervision, CORD Moving and Storage handled these challenges successfully. CORD's efficient packing allowed IRN to cut back on the number of trailers required, which in turn reduced pressure on other aspects of onsite management.



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