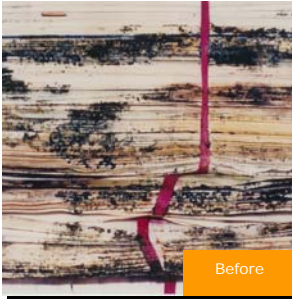


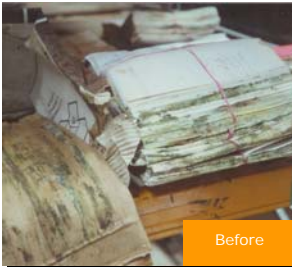
## CASE STUDY: WINCHESTER HOSPITAL MOULD OUTBREAK



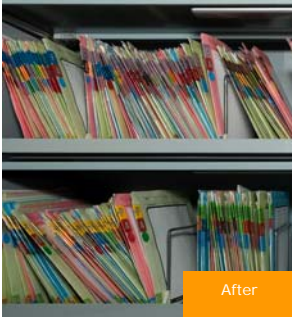
The problem with paper records and storage is that any spare space is usually utilised to store them no matter what the conditions. At first the basement in the town house patient day care centre seemed like a perfect spot however it was not long before the musty and mushroomy smell of mould permeated the air. The administrator was aware that there was a growing mould problem in the basement from the high humidity levels and that signs of mould growth were detected.



As often the case the key decision makers could not see their way to releasing funds to waterproof the basement and the mould was allowed to continue. As the fungal growth increased so did the odour, it was rank. The staff refused to go into the basement and those that had gone unprotected suffered respiratory problems.



Finally the situation was at crisis point and there was concern about exposing vulnerable patients to the contaminated files. At this point the document restoration experts Document SOS were called to remedy the situation.



The key to successful restoration of this information was to decontaminate the mould using a bacterial, virucidal and biological agent which would kill the mould spores whilst not damaging the paper records in the long term. This is why Infra Red radiation is not advised as it damages the paper structure in the long term.

A key part of the recovery was that all records should be available for immediate return should a patient come in for treatment.

Therefore all the records were logged onto the electronic retrieval system in order to provide a file fast-track treatment and return within 24 hours. Tests were taken during and after decontamination to show that the results have been successful.

Of the 132 crates and boxes removed it took 4 weeks to restore them and return them to the hospital

**For more information please contact:**

**DOCUMENT SOS**

Tel: 0207 498 8080 24/7 Emergency: 07850 345 154 Email: [help@documentsos.com](mailto:help@documentsos.com)

