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Remanufactured Electrosurgical Devices

**Reducing the environmental impact
of surgery at CUH and CUMH**



HSE South West theatres at CUH and CUMH are sending some of their single use surgical devices for remanufacturing after use.

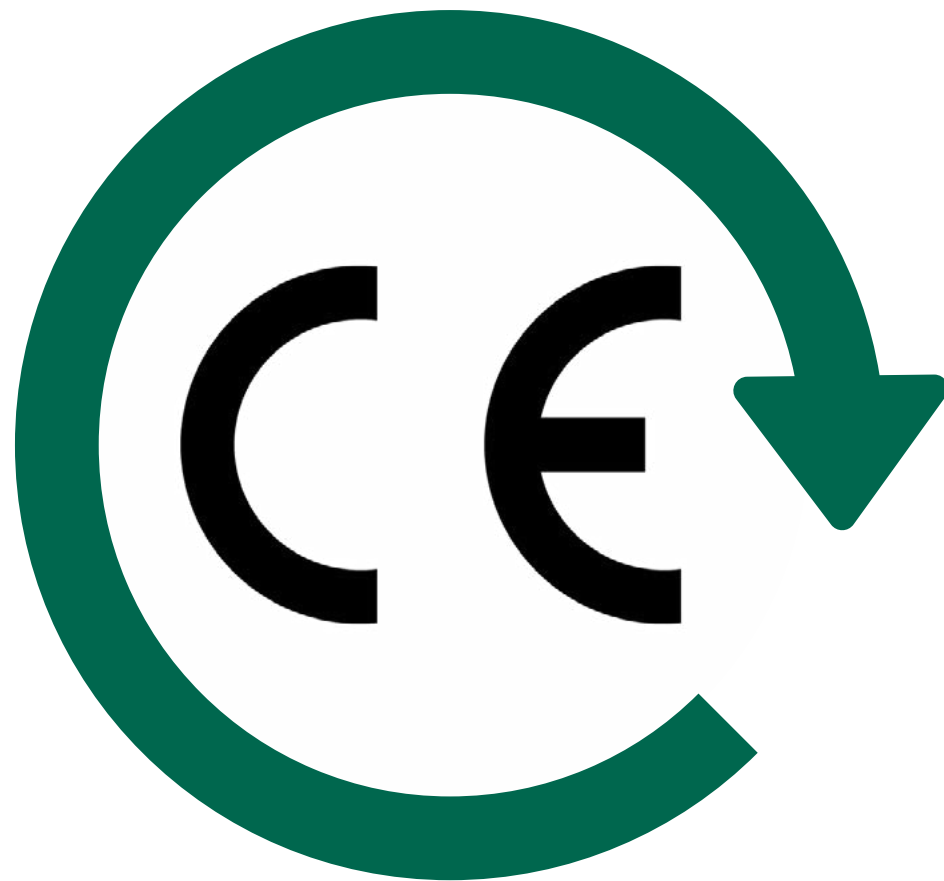
Electrosurgical devices are remanufactured instead of being disposed as healthcare risk waste after a single use.



Remanufactured surgical devices are CE marked, denoting the same standard of functionality as new devices.

CUH and CUMH have been collecting single use electrosurgical devices for recycling for several years and some other public hospitals are also now setting up collections.

CUMH is working towards a purchase contract for remanufactured devices.



What is surgical device remanufacturing?

Remanufacturing of devices from original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) includes inspection; indelible marking; disinfection; cleaning; checks on functionality and cleanliness; packaging; and sterilisation. 100% function testing ensures the safety of the surgical device.

The CE Mark signifies that the manufacturer asserts that the electrosurgical device complies with all applicable EU health, safety, and environmental requirements in accordance with the EU Medical Devices Regulation 2017/745.

The remanufacturing process with a CE Mark ensures electrosurgical devices are fit for use once again with full functionality.

Disassembly into individual components during the remanufacturing process



Individual components ready for sterilisation



Testing as part of remanufacturing process



What are the benefits of recycling OEM devices & using remanufactured devices?

FINANCIAL BENEFITS

€1,200 per tonne
reduced healthcare
risk waste treatment
costs



€3 - €8 procurement credit
per recycled electrosurgical
device, which can be
used to purchase
remanufactured devices



40-50% cost saving
when purchasing
a remanufactured
device



ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

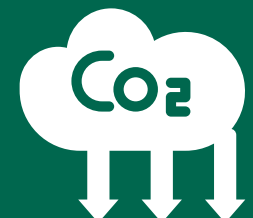
33-50% lower carbon
emissions with a
remanufactured
device compared to
an OEM device



29% savings in
resource use, mainly
in plastic production
and processing, and
in packaging



Reduced carbon
emissions from
procurement of
healthcare products
and services



Is remanufacturing of devices permitted in Ireland?

Yes.

The EU Medical Devices Regulation 2017/745, enacted in 2021, permits the remanufacturing of 'single-use' devices where the reprocessor takes on full responsibility and liability as a new manufacturer i.e. CE marking.



Results to date



Over 600 surgical devices have been sent from the two hospitals for remanufacturing as of May 2025.

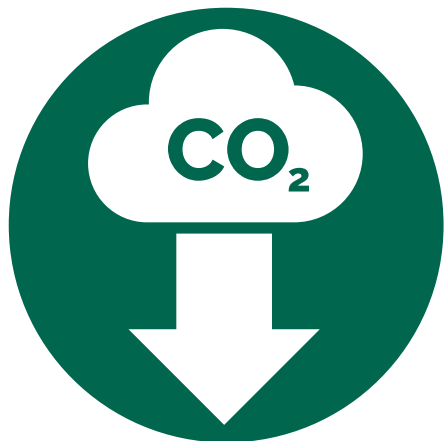


€2,800 procurement credit has been made to the hospitals as payment for devices sent for remanufacturing.



A reduction in **healthcare risk waste costs**, with 130 kg of such waste being avoided.

Results to Date: HSE South West theatres are have saved...



140kg of carbon
emissions savings from
diverting used devices
into remanufacturing
vs sending them for
incineration.



700 kg carbon
emissions savings when
these remanufactured
surgical devices are
reused.

Are remanufactured surgical devices on a HSE Procurement Framework?

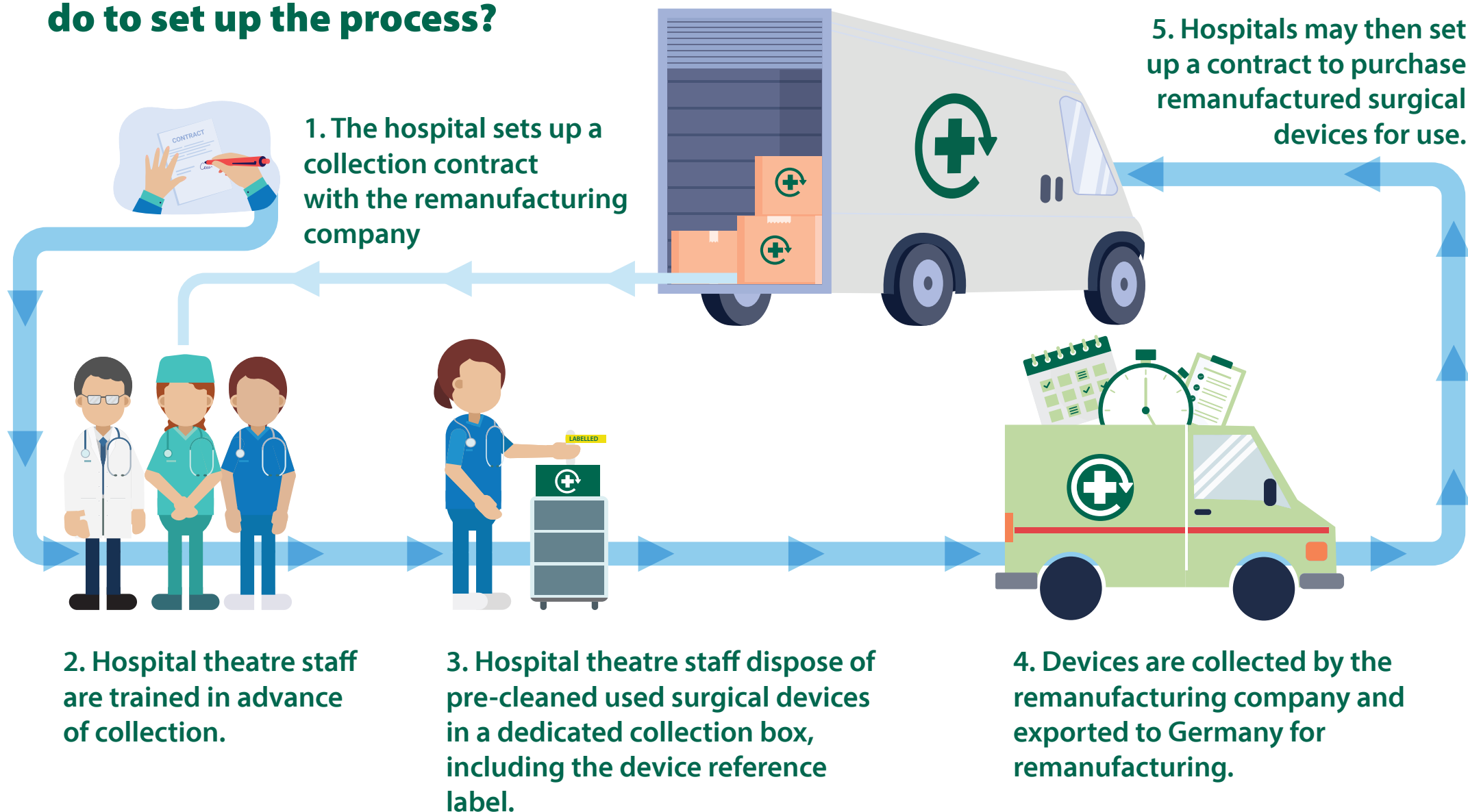
Yes, remanufactured surgical devices are available to purchase from a HSE Procurement Framework (DPS 202164:1 DPS Qualification for Electro surgery Equipment and Neurology Products).

How does a Surgical Consultant use remanufactured devices?

Set up a used surgical device collection first, followed by purchasing of remanufactured devices.



What should hospitals do to set up the process?





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