

Project Profile

Tight Construction Timetable



With an aggressive construction schedule – just 23 months to build a 485,000-square foot, five-story hospital – contractors knew that speedy installation was a must. They turned to Viega for help.

The facility is the North Alabama Medical Center, located in Florence, Alabama. Operated by RCCH HealthCare Partners, the hospital is being built to replace an old facility in Florence. General contractor Layton Construction and mechanical contractor MMC Contractors are both proponents of Viega.

“There are savings with Viega and really from an overall speed of installation standpoint,” John Thomas, general contractor with Layton Construction, said. “It was almost inconceivable that we could accomplish this schedule without the advantages of ProPress to speed it up overall.”

North Alabama Medical Center will replace Eliza Coffee Memorial Hospital, a full-service regional hospital build in the 1940s. The new facility will be only about three miles away, but in addition to the 263-bed hospital, the complex will include a 72,000-square foot, three-story medical office building too.

Another selling point for Viega in a medical setting is the ease of use for future expansion or if repairs are needed. Work can be done quickly

and without a need for flame, so fire watch and burn permits aren't necessary. A crew can get in and get the work done quickly and safely, greatly lessening the impact on a hospital and its patients.

Viega products have played a major role in the construction of North Alabama Medical Center. Nearly all the lines installed include Viega fittings. They'll be used for hydronic piping, chilled water, heating water, domestic water and instrument air. Copper ProPress fittings, in sizes ½" to 4", are installed throughout the facility. Crews have run more than 265,000 feet of pipe.

“It cannot be overstated, the benefit we have in taking advantage of ProPress on this project, especially given the time we had to construct this hospital,” Thomas said. “Without the tools we have, like Viega ProPress, we could not deliver the job and be where we are on the schedule!”

“It's the nature of what we see in the trend of healthcare – everyone wants it faster, cleaner and cheaper. It's impossible for me to guess the time savings on a big job like this, but I can only imagine that with Viega, easily, 25 percent of the rough-in time is cut out, or maybe more. ProPress contributed to the earlier operating date, and to our success on this job.”

Object	Hydronic piping, chilled water, heating water, domestic water and instrument air
Location	Florence, Alabama
Year	2018
Installation	Layton Construction, MMC Contractors



ProPress fittings were used for 265,000 feet of copper pipe throughout the hospital.