

BEST OF SHOW

Part II

The Top 20 Products from EMS EXPO 2003

By Melba Sewels, MIECP

In all the years that I have attended EMS EXPO, I've never seen the exhibit hall so crowded. Then again, with more than 5,000 attendees and 325 booths, it only makes sense. It just added a little more challenge as I searched the floor looking for the most innovative products to come our way. Here, for your personal, is Part 2 of my Top 20 picks from EMS EXPO 2003—the best of shows. Part 1 appeared in the December issue.

CFP-15 Oxygen Generating System from OGSi, Inc.

One of the ongoing costs of doing business in EMS is that of maintaining a constant and readily available supply of medical-grade oxygen. When I got wind of OGSi's idea of "make your own oxygen," I just had to check it out.

The CFP-15 is a self-contained oxygen cylinder filling plant, new to the EMS market, that produces medical-grade oxygen and compresses it, allowing provider agencies to fill their own tanks at up to 2,200 psi. Put a CFP-15 system into place, and suddenly problems with traceability, cylinder transportation, safety, convenience and supply availability disappear.

The unit is much smaller than I envisioned, taking up a mere 30" by 16" by 16" when set up for wall mounting. Once it's set up, all you provide is a clean, dry environment that has air and a 110-volt power source. The CFP-15 is designed to run automatically and requires little to no attention once up and running. A clearly visible indicator panel lets you see at a glance what the unit is doing as it continually assesses and measures oxygen purity, as well as the pressure being delivered to the cylinder. The unit performs a continuous series of self-diagnostic tests as it monitors the process from front to back. Should a problem such as a drop in oxygen purity occur, the CFP-15 will automatically shut down and display alarms.

Another real plus is the unit's quiet operation. I sat right next to a CFP-15 while carrying on a normal conversation, and I could barely hear it running.

At some point, the question of cost must surface. For agencies using more than one large cylinder of oxygen a week, the CFP-15 can pay for itself in about two years. After that, the annual maintenance is estimated at approximately \$100. Most amazing to me is the actual cost to fill a K, L, or M tank. Based on the average cost of electricity around the country, you are looking at about \$1. Unbelievable.

For more information, call 716/564-5165, or visit www.ogsi.com.

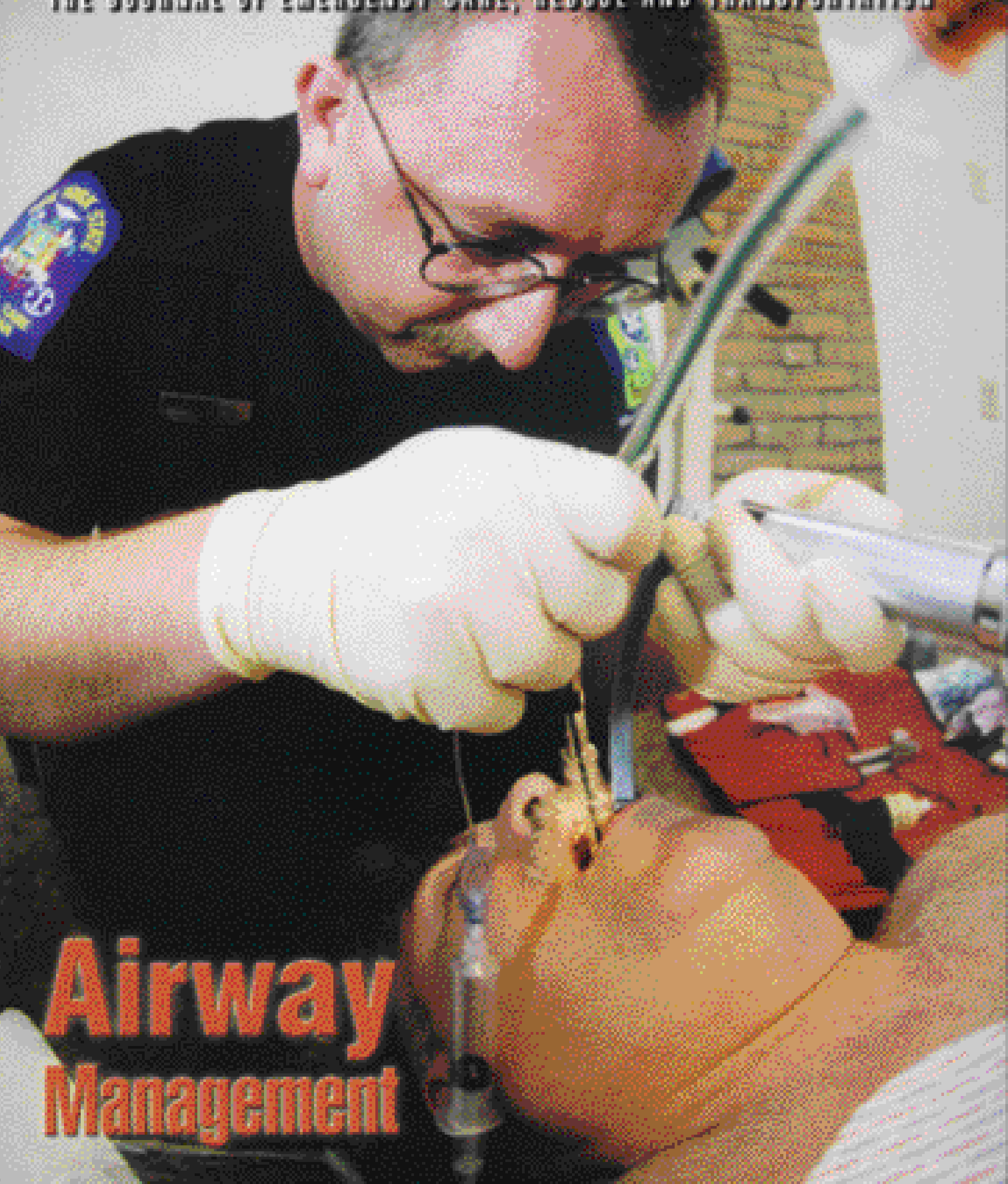


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