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## Case Study

**Location:** Madison, WI

**Industry:** Healthcare

**Scope:** HVAC, Plumbing, Sheet Metal

**Contract Amount:** \$547,000



New HVAC ductwork leading into mechanical penthouse

**Owner:** US Dept of Veteran Affairs

**General Contractor:** C3T

**Architect:** Chequamegon Bay Engineering

**Engineer:** Henneman Engineering Inc.

**Delivery Method:** Plan & Spec

**Contract Type:** Fixed Price

**Website:** [www.grunau.com](http://www.grunau.com)

# William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital

Grunau Company loves unique challenges and the VA Hospital in Madison, WI was no exception. This particular medical facility is involved in extensive research and a recent report indicated they have 50 investigators working on 150 funded projects. Some of this research has been ongoing for decades and involves temperatures found in "outer space" (the realm beyond Earth).

In order not to disrupt the valuable research activities a floor below the remodeling work, Grunau was given a 24-hour window to shut down all the old equipment and start up the newly installed HVAC service for Building 12 of the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital.

The remodel included cutting down the length of an existing rooftop unit in order to build a new mechanical penthouse around the new air handling and energy recovery units. Chilled water piping was removed from the existing rooftop and rerouted to the new equipment (planned during the cooler fall/winter temperatures). Steam and hot water piping was run from the new equipment back to the changeover point so final tie-ins could happen within a few hours. Grunau prefabricated all the ductwork for tie-ins to the roof penetrations and installed them just short of those points. Leading up to the date of the changeover, Grunau had planned and started up the new air handlers for a two week period to ensure no equipment problems existed.

With the 24-hour clock ticking, Grunau completed the final tie-ins and exchange in only 10 hours with minimal service disruption so the investigators could continue on with their important research.

This was a great achievement considering all total, Grunau put in about 2,200 manhours over a 7 month timeframe by coordinating the efforts of duct and pipe fabricators in our shops, plumbers, HVAC technicians and electricians installing temperature controls. The key to the successful outcome was the careful planning and innovative thinking.

