



*Safe Surgery any time, any place®*

**Presenting**  
the award-winning  
SurgiField™ System



*SurgiBox Inc. is a Delaware registered C-Corp*

Imagine if every patient had **access to safe surgery** *without* having to wait for months on end or to travel a long distance

# The SurgiField™: A rapidly deployed, cost-effective and ultra-portable surgical environment incubated at MIT and Harvard :



Torso

- ✓ protects the patient's surgical site from the outside environment and medical personnel;
- ✓ the medical provider from the patient's bodily fluids;

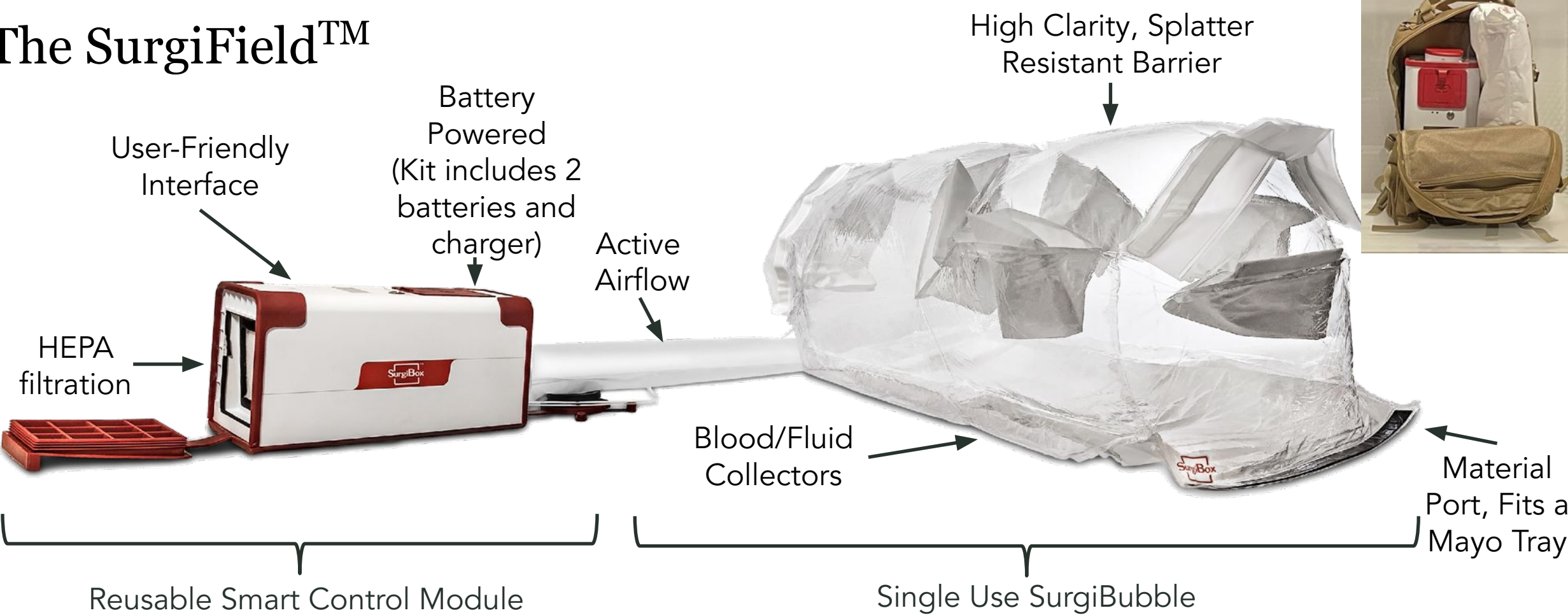


Limb

- ✓ transforms any space into a surgical environment, therefore significantly increasing surgical capacity
- ✓ simplifies supply-chain burden



# The SurgiField™



  
Weight  
< 6 kgs

  
Inflates  
~ 120s

  
Each charge  
4+ hours

  
Dual Patient-Provider  
Protection

# SurgiField™ in action in field settings



Japanese Surgeon in an Ambulance



SurgiField in Ukraine



Shrapnel removal in Burma

# Military Use Scenarios



The SurgiField was designed with trauma surgeons from US Army and US Air Force



## Field Surgery

- Field Hospitals / Naval Ships: Parallel surgeries, higher throughput.
- Prolonged Field Care: On-site surgery when evacuation impossible.
- Littoral Combat Ships: Makeshift operating rooms, major upgrade for surgeons.



## Evacuation

- CASEVAC: Manage complications in flight, protect patients/crew.
- Medevac: Stabilization + transport, wound protection

# Emergency, Austere and Remote Setting Scenarios

SurgiField was designed with surgeons from MSF and WHO



Emergency Settings (e.g. conflict and disaster zones) to enable **the transformation of any space** into a safe surgical environment with multiple “pop-up” operating theaters including:

- Existing infrastructure such as medical facilities - even those that have been damaged
- Infrastructure that can be set up on the go such as in tents, abandoned buildings and sheds



Austere and Remote Settings (e.g. refugee camps, rural areas, mines, cruise ships) to enable the deployment of surgical missions in:

- Terrain (e.g. mountains and mines) where transporting patients is difficult
- Remote areas where no or poor operating theater infrastructure exists and/or reliance on distant referral hospitals is impractical

# Hospital

The SurgiField was designed with surgeons from Harvard Medical School



- Expand surgical capacity in existing settings without compromising safety
    - Convert non-surgical spaces like recovery rooms into temporary operating rooms.
    - Optimize existing resources by having all surgical teams and supplies ready to handle high-volume demand.
    - Reduce wait times and surgical backlog
    - Increase throughput without added capital expense or time to build a new one
- 



- Enable surgery in previously unequipped locations
  - Expand surgical access to remote and underserved areas, including small clinics and mobile trailers.
  - Strengthen health systems.
  - Reduce patient wait times for surgery and enable earlier intervention for better patient outcomes.

# The SurgiField™ has been developed with scientific rigor with results published in peer-reviewed journals

MILITARY MEDICINE, Vol. 186, January/February Supplement 2021

## A Paradigm Shift in Critical Care Infrastructure in Complex Settings: Evaluating an Ultraportable Operating Room to Improve Field Surgical Safety

Debbie L. Teodorescu, MD<sup>1,1,1,1</sup>; Stephen Chakima, MS<sup>1,1</sup>; CPT Asad Moten, MC, USA<sup>1,1,1,1,1,1</sup>; Mike H.M. Teodorescu, DDA<sup>1,1,1</sup>; Major [F] Hoch, MD<sup>1,1,1</sup>; Samantha Gallimore-Briggs, BS<sup>1,1,1</sup>; Karim Maitz, MD, MS<sup>1,1</sup>; Capt Robert J. Crowley, MC, USA<sup>1,1</sup>; COL David R. King, MC, USA<sup>1,1,1,1,1</sup>

### ABSTRACT

#### Introduction:

Scarcity of operating rooms and personal protective equipment in forward field settings make surgical infections a potential concern for combat mortality and morbidity. Surgical and transport personnel also face infectious risks from bodily fluid exposures. Our study aimed to describe the real-world concept testing of the SurgiField technology as an inflatable, mobile environment that addresses the aforementioned problems, fits on generators and backpacks, and disposes over incinerators.

#### Materials and Methods:

The SurgiField environmental control unit and inflatable enclosure were optimized over five generations based on negative feedback from stakeholders experienced in surgery in austere settings. The airflow system was developed by analytic modeling, verified through in vitro modeling in a 54 (5000) RHE, and confirmed with primary smokestack checking. Particular concern evaluated the enclosure's ability to control and mitigate most exposures to potentially infectious contaminants from the surgical field in various settings. SurgiField enclosures were setup over a mannequin's torso in a configuration and position for either thoracic or abdominal surgery. A particle counter was centrally positioned in maneuver and deployment positions, as well as lateral field positions. This setup was repeated with open ports exposing the enclosure to the external environment. To simulate stress scenarios, sampling was repeated with enclosure measurements during an increase in external particulate concentration.

#### Results:

The airflow technology effectively kept contaminants away from the incision and maintained a pressure differential to reduce particulate entry. Flowing airways demonstrated that even when ports were opened in the external environment, high containment levels, the enclosed surgical field consistently registered 0 particles/cm<sup>3</sup> in all positions. Time from key opening to incision averaged 54.5 seconds, with the run-filtering step being connecting the environmental control unit to the incision. The portable kit weighed 5.9 kg.

#### Conclusions:

Analysis, in silico, and mechanical airflow modeling and benchtop testing have helped to quantify the SurgiField system's capability to create and maintain an operating room quality surgical field within the enclosure as well as protecting the surgical team outside the enclosure. More recent and ongoing work has focused on specifying optimal air settings in the monthly check of air, expanding support for streamlined procedures, automating airflow control, and accelerating system setup. SurgiField's ultimate goal is to take timely, safe surgery to patients in even the most austere of settings.

<sup>1</sup>Department of Research and Development, SurgiBox Inc., Cambridge, MA 02142, USA.  
<sup>2</sup>Department of Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02114, USA.  
<sup>3</sup>USLA, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA.  
<sup>4</sup>Department of Defense, National Capital Consortium, Defense Health Agency, Washington DC 20305, USA.  
<sup>5</sup>Department of Lab, Health Research International, Houston, TX 77060, USA.  
<sup>6</sup>Department of Information Systems, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02464, USA.  
<sup>7</sup>United States Military Medical Center, Loma, CA 92556, Northridge.  
<sup>8</sup>Medical Service, United States Air Force, Washington, DC 20330, USA.

MILITARY MEDICINE, Vol. 186, January/February Supplement 2021

295



OPEN ACCESS

### Early-stage innovation report

## User-centred innovation to advance safe surgery at the point of need: report on development of the SurgiField system

Debbie Lin Teodorescu<sup>1</sup>,<sup>2</sup> Soththar Jorrasagadda,<sup>3</sup> Atif Rakin,<sup>4</sup> Mike H M Teodorescu<sup>5</sup>,<sup>6</sup> Macaulay Korney,<sup>7</sup> Julian Greene,<sup>8</sup> Steven Bokhan,<sup>9</sup> Hajar Mahdavi,<sup>10</sup> Asad Moten,<sup>11</sup> Ouald Aher,<sup>12</sup> Robert D Smiley,<sup>13</sup> Ander Dorton-Callagott,<sup>14</sup> Arnav Mahajan,<sup>15</sup> Robert D Smiley,<sup>16</sup> Daniel Frey,<sup>17</sup> David R King,<sup>18,19</sup> Meena N Chertan<sup>20</sup>

**INTRODUCTION**

In conditions ranging from pneumothorax to acute compartment syndrome to fractures to traumatic and degenerative joint disease to appendicitis to obstructed labour to postpartum haemorrhage, safely timely surgical intervention is the deciding factor among emergency mortality or long-term disability. Consequently, access to quality surgical care is a global priority across the resource spectrum. The degree this, an estimated 18 million people die annually from conditions that safe surgery could address. Even more experience permanent disability from infirmed, inaccessible, or unsafe surgery: generating a gross domestic product loss of US\$20 billion from lost annual production.<sup>1</sup> For those requiring reconstructive, sophisticated surgeries, the vast majority of surgical needs globally are captured by the simple, scalable, full-spectrum surgical procedures.<sup>2</sup>

Surgical care has traditionally relied on consistent availability of three resource categories: (1) functional equipment and materials, (2) appropriate facility space and (3) medical staff.<sup>3,4</sup> Given the practical challenges of disseminating these resources in many settings, including but not limited to conflict settings, disaster zones, low-to-middle-income countries and rural regions, surgical care availability is often limited to centralized referral settings.<sup>5</sup> Even higher-resource settings regard cost, complications and quality improvement as ongoing challenges to care equity and sustainability. For reference, in some operating theatres cost an average of US\$27 per minute to run.<sup>6</sup> High equipment and facility costs are driven in part by maintaining the sterility

**WHAT ARE THE NEW FINDINGS**

→ Proven, iterative development of individual elements of a portable technology may make legal as well as highly optimized innovation with innovation, ongoing care feedback, however, managing innovation risk, such as the complex integration, is critical to overall success of the innovation.

→ The SurgiField system is able to provide both passive and active barriers against environmental contamination during a broad range of surgical procedures, particularly for so-called 'bulletproof' procedures that are used intensively in forward theatre areas to surgical care.

→ A flexible, sealed, full-sized enclosure could be made efficient to deploy and take down, transport and equipped with typical surgical field access requirements. This could be implemented with a conveniently sized package similar to large surgical drapes and readily for any major surgical procedure.

BMJ

Teodorescu DL, et al. BMJ Innov 2021;17(1):1-11. doi:10.1136/bmjinnov-2021-000880

317

European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00120-021-02101-w>

### ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Moving toward point-of-care surgery in Ukraine: testing an ultra-portable operating room in an active war zone

Emanuele Lagazzi<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Debbie Lin Teodorescu<sup>4,5</sup>, Elias Argandhyer<sup>6</sup>, Michael Alexander Samotkovski<sup>1</sup>, David Richard King<sup>7</sup>

Received: 26 September 2021 / Accepted: 19 November 2021

© The Author(s), under exclusive license to Springer Verlag GmbH Germany 2021

### Abstract

**Purpose:** In conflict zones, providers may have to decide between delaying time-sensitive surgeries or performing operative interventions in the field, potentially subjecting patients to significant infection risks. We conducted a single-arm crossover study to assess the feasibility of using an ultraportable operating room (U-OR) for surgical procedures on a porcine cadaver abdominal traumatic injury model in an active war zone.

**Methods:** We enrolled participants from an ASSET-type course designed to train Ukrainian surgeons before deployment to active conflict zones. They performed three standardized consecutive abdominal surgical procedures (liver, kidney, and small bowel injury repair) with and without the U-OR. Primary outcomes included surgical procedure completion rate, procedure time, and airborne particle count at the start of surgery. Secondary survey-based outcomes assessed surgery task load index (SURLTI-X) and perceived operative factors.

**Results:** Fourteen surgeons performed 76 surgical procedures (38 with the U-OR, 38 without the U-OR). The completion rate for each surgical procedure was 100% in both groups. While the procedure time for the liver injury repair did not differ significantly between the two groups, the use of the U-OR was associated with a longer time for kidney (155 vs. 56 s,  $p=0.002$ ), and small bowel (229 vs. 101 s,  $p=0.004$ ) injury repair. The average airborne particle count within the U-OR was substantially lower compared to outside the U-OR (6,753.85 vs. 237,282 and,  $p<0.0001$ ). There was no statistically significant difference in SURLTI-X for procedures performed with and without the U-OR.

**Conclusion:** The use of the U-OR did not affect the procedure completion rate or SURLTI-X. However, there was a marked difference in airborne particle counts between inside and outside the U-OR during surgery. These preliminary findings indicate the potential feasibility of using a U-OR to perform abdominal damage-control surgical procedures in austere settings.

**Keywords:** Trauma · Emergency general surgery · Austere environment · Disaster medicine · Ukraine

Michael A. Samotkovski and David R. King are co-senior authors with equal contribution.

✉ David Richard King

[dking@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:dking@bwh.harvard.edu)

Emanuele Lagazzi

[elagazzi@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:elagazzi@bwh.harvard.edu)

Debbie L. Teodorescu

[debbie@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:debbie@bwh.harvard.edu)

David Argandhyer

[dargandhyer@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:dargandhyer@bwh.harvard.edu)

Michael Alexander Samotkovski

[mamotkovski@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:mamotkovski@bwh.harvard.edu)

Published online: 04 January 2021

Springer

- [Military Medicine \(Link Here\)](#)
- Results of the benchtop testing

- [BMJ Innovations \(Link Here\)](#)
- Results of the co-development process with surgeons and medical personnel

- [Pubmed \(Link Here\)](#)
- Results of a study in Lviv Ukraine

# Testimonials

"This equipment helps to save, firstly, time for processing the operating field, and secondly, it helps to ensure sterility in aggressive environments. Namely, in basements, tents, under the conditions of transportation by sanitary transport. This is what provides immediate operative access to a serious injury, ensures the preservation of the life of such an injured person where it is not possible to provide qualified assistance in the operating room." (translated from original Ukranian),

*Serhii Nayev, Lieutenant General, Ukrainian Armed Forces*

"If you're going to go to a surgically underserved country, you're going to try to find a hospital somewhere and that hospital may or may not have the infrastructure to support clean surgery. But when you think about the SurgiField, suddenly you don't need any of that. You can go to the patient instead of the patient coming to you."

*Prof. David King, Trauma Surgeon, MGH*

"When you're operating with artillery fire in the distance and debris falling around you, you learn that medicine isn't about perfect conditions - it's about creating a moment of safety in chaos. The SurgiField gave us something I never thought possible in that building: better sterile conditions. For those 30 minutes, with my hands working inside that protective barrier, I could focus entirely on saving this young man's life instead of worrying about contamination. The system was intuitive even under pressure - clear visibility, easy access, and most importantly, it created a clean surgical field where none should have existed. In conflict medicine, we're always improvising, but this felt like having a real operating room materialize around my patient. That's the difference between losing someone to infection days later and giving them a fighting chance to heal."

*Burmese Trauma Surgeon,*

# Shipping Information

|                                                                                    | Part Number                                                                                               | Package Weight<br>(cms)                             | Package<br>Dimensions             | Shelf Life/Warranty |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
|   | SB-T1-02-CE Carton<br>of CE SurgiBubbles<br>(6x)                                                          | 62.35 x 51.4x35.3                                   | 8kgs                              | 2 Years             |
|  | EB-T1-02-EU:<br>1 Smart control<br>Module<br>1 Smart Charger EU<br>2 Lithium Batteries<br>2 Pop-Up Frames | Box 1: 45.0 x 32.2 x<br>28.6<br>Box 2: 97 x 10 x 10 | Box 1: 6.75 kgs<br>Box 2: 0.3 kgs | 2 Years             |



TIME Magazine's Best Inventions  
of 2023



Safe Surgery Any Time, Any Place®

[sales@surgibox.com](mailto:sales@surgibox.com)