



Amanda Vasilikos  
Press Contact

MechoSystems  
Corporate Headquarters  
42-03 35th Street  
Long Island City, NY 11101  
T : +1 (718) 729-2020, x1314  
F : +1 (718) 371-1081  
E : info@mechosystems.com  
W : mechosystems.com



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## **MechoSystems' Bed-Interface Unit Gives Patients a Sense of Control**

LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y.—The design of health-care facilities is increasingly focused on providing patients with a sense of involvement in their care, both to foster positive patient outcomes and help curb costs. MechoSystems now offers a device that does both: the Bed-Interface Unit, which lets patients operate a room's window shades from their beds.

Research shows that giving patients a sense of control and participation in their treatment leads to lower stress, better outcomes, and shortened recovery times. The Bed-Interface Unit lets patients raise and lower their motorized shades with a simple, one-button device that easily integrates with the low-voltage wiring of most major manufacturers' hospital bed controls. This simplicity and compatibility were two of the features that earned it a Nightingale Award from the health-care industry's most prestigious product-design competition.

The Bed-Interface Unit makes it nearly effortless for patients to raise the shades to bring in natural daylight or to lower the shades for brightness or glare reduction. Patient control of window shades also reduces staff time spent raising and lowering them. Thus, health-care workers experience more efficient use of their time.

In addition, peer-reviewed studies since the 1970s have shown a positive correlation between daylight and outdoor views and shorter recovery times. Studies also show that patients deprived of outdoor views report needing higher and stronger doses of narcotic pain relievers, which can be less safe, more expensive, and require closer patient monitoring than weaker, non-controlled analgesics such as acetaminophen. Because the shade cloths on manual MechoShades® and motorized ElectroShades® allow outside views even when fully drawn, patients reap all of the benefits of daylight while still controlling brightness, heat, and glare.

From patient and examining rooms to waiting and operating rooms, MechoShades and ElectroShades are the primary choice of architects and designers serving the health-care community.

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**About the company:** Founded in 1969, MechoSystems is the world's leading designer and manufacturer of innovative window-covering systems for the architectural and design communities. MechoSystems Inc., 42-03 35th Street, Long Island City, New York, 11101. T: +1 (718) 729-2020, F: +1 (718) 371-1081. E: media@mechoshade.com. W: mechosystems.com.