



# ELECOMPACK

## CASE STUDY New York Botanical Gardens, New York, NY



The New York Botanical Garden's Steere Herbarium, a scientific research center of international significance, houses a vast collection of specimens that documents the diversity of the plant life from around the world.

With 5.6 million specimens, the Herbarium is the largest in the Western Hemisphere and fourth largest in the world. Approximately 100,000 specimens are added each year, though collections made by Garden scientists as part of their research, exchanges of duplicate specimens with other herbaria, and acquisitions of "orphaned" collections from other institutions.

When the Herbarium outgrew its available space, an auxiliary building was erected and a high density mobile storage system was needed to maximize the number of specimens that could be stored in the new space. The Garden selected Elecompack, whose



compactors had been in use in the New York Botanical Garden Library since 1985.

"Safety was an important consideration" states Dr. Patricia Holmgren, Director of the Herbarium. With Elecompack's passive aisle locking system, the mere opening of an aisle automatically engages locks that prevent the aisle from closing.

With budgetary constraints a real issue, the Garden selected Elecompack's mechanical assist system. The system was design to hold locking cabinets, which held the valuable collection.

