What's New Newsletter?

Benefits Of The Pretreated Flat Mopping

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Significantly Reduce the Chance for Cross Contamination
Use a clean mop head for each patient room.
Employees do not touch soiled mop heads.

Significantly Reduce Chemical and Water Consumption
1 ½ gallons of cleaning solution cleans 20 rooms vs. 26 gallons for traditional mopping systems . Estimated savings = 85%

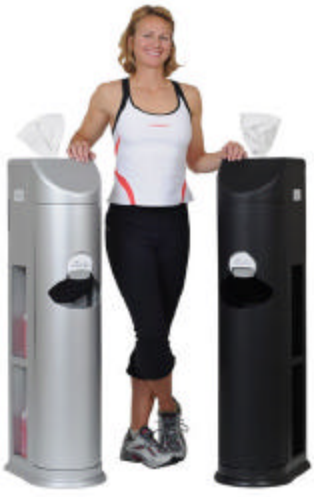
Significantly Increase Employee Productivity
Dust mopping in most areas is optional.
Mop wringing and mop bucket emptying and refilling is not necessary.
Cleaning can be accomplished in half the time as ordinary mopping.

Reduce Employee Fatigue and Improve Employee Morale
Flat mops are considerably lighter and easier to maneuver than string mops.

Influence Customer Comfort and Satisfaction
Flat mopping is much quieter and quicker than traditional mopping systems.

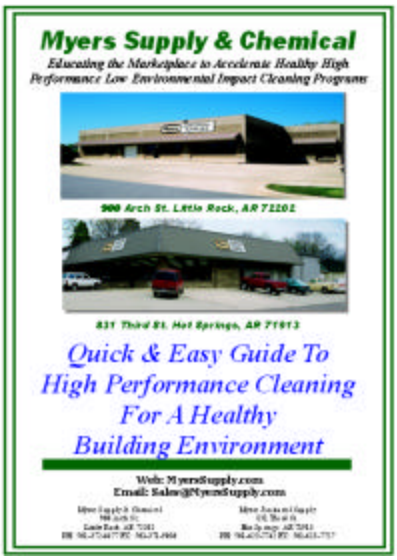
A Complete Cleaning Station

The Cleaning Station is a cost-effective, one-stop cleaning system for your facility. Designed and tested by business owners and managers, The Cleaning Station makes it easy for customers and staff to sanitize equipment and stop the spread of contagious bacteria and viruses. Constructed of durable, injection-molded ABS plastic, The Cleaning Station™ is a sleek, freestanding unit (15"L x 10"W x 42" H) that is stylishly attractive.



The Cleaning Station™ holds a roll towel of 400 double-recreped (DRC), lint-free, 9” x 12” wipers durable enough for cleaning, yet soft enough to use on the face and hands, a great multipurpose towel! The Cleaning Station can now take pre-moistened wipers. The Cleaning Station also has a built-in Hand Sanitizer dispenser .

Quick & Easy Guide To High Performance Cleaning



The Quick & Easy Guide To High Performance Cleaning explains the positive impact on human health and the environment that you will create with a Healthy Cleaning Program.

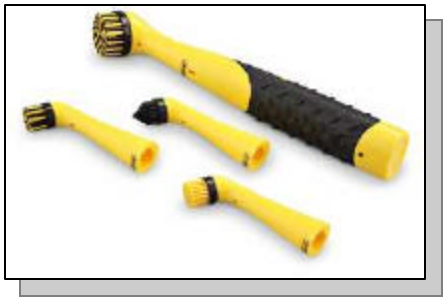
It contains information based on many different types of facilities including schools and universities, health care, and office buildings.

The guide also helps you in choosing healthy cleaning products, with the latest guidelines covering chemicals, equipment, paper and other green cleaning tools and supplies.

Myers Chemical & Supplies

Get more product info at: www.MyersSupply.com

Sonic Cleaning Action



Nothing scrubs faster, easier or better than the SonicScrubber Pro! That's because SonicScrubber Pro has Sonic Cleaning Action.

Utilizing high speed oscillations (back and forth action), the SonicScrubber Pro powers through the toughest cleaning challenges without stalling.

The SonicScrubber Pro has a unique technology enabling significant torque or power while delivering over 3,600 scrubs per minute. The SonicScrubber Pro does the scrubbing so you don't have to! The SonicScrubber's back and forth Sonic Cleaning Action scrubs the surface evenly, making the SonicScrubber powered tool completely balanced and easy to use.

30% More Power to Clean Faster, Easier, Better -- no more manual scrubbing!

Sonic Cleaning Action

Oscillating brushes for high speed back and forth scrubbing.
Effective for hard-to-reach and difficult-to-clean areas.
Works great with your favorite cleaning solutions.
Angled head prevents knuckle scrapes and broken nails.
Portable and water tight for easy cleaning around water.

Our most powerful motor provides continuous scrubbing without stalling on the toughest jobs. Sonic Scrubbers ergonomic handle with non-slip grip provides a comfortable secure hold. A variety of brushes are available to tackle your detailing challenges.

Catch The WAVE

What Makes the CPI WAVE Mop So Extraordinary?
It's Quite Simple …*High Performance Cleaning Fabric*

Our patented process of "bonded yarn" delivers the best micro ber in the world. The bonded yarn is melted out and helps to hold other yarns together longer. It also helps keep the loop shape stable and will not lump together in repeated hot water laundering. Other manufacturers can not split the blended micro bers in the same way. The loops will not keep their original shape after repeated laundering and as a result will start to fray.

CPI has developed unique processes to work with the latest technology in high performance cleaning fabrics. The system approach helps assure each facility is cleaned to the maximum capacity with the most use of Green Microfiber. This is emphasized through SYSTEM or Solutions Yielding Sustainability Toward Environmental Maintenance.

EPA Addresses Green Disinfectant Claims

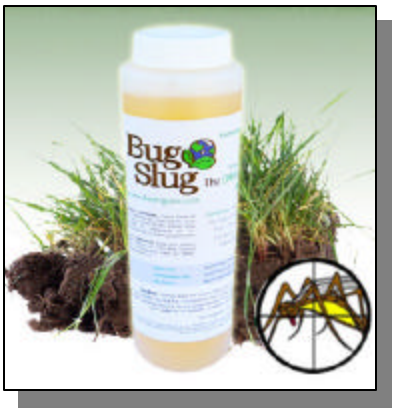
Design for the Environment U.S. EPA

United States Environmental Protection Agency

According to ISSA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will conduct an "internal pilot" program in conjunction with the agency's Design for the Environment Formulator Program (DfE) to further explore a policy change that would allow claims of environmental preferability in regard to non-porous hard-surface disinfectants and sanitizers. The agency's plans were announced last week at a meeting of the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC) Work Group on Comparative Claims in Washington, D.C. "EPA's announcement of the internal pilot is a positive step forward in developing an agency policy that meshes with the demands of today's 'green' marketplace," said ISSA Director of Legislative Affairs Bill Balek.

The purpose of the internal pilot program is to increase the understanding between EPA's DfE scientists and the pesticide registration review staff as to what a review for environmental preferability entails and how that might interface with the pesticide registration process. (Note: By law, disinfectants are regulated as "pesticides").

Bug Slug Colloidal Pest Control



Bug Slug Colloidal Pest Control has potent control of mosquitoes, aphids, flies, ticks, and arthropods—it exhibits control activity against larval, pupae and adult stages of specific insect species while posing no threat to humans and animals or the flora and fauna. This product immediately impacts on contact, the exoskeleton structure of arthropods by disrupting the molecular structure of the chitin and other protein substances that protect insects. Its mechanism of action triggers the rapid and irreversible deterioration of the insects' spiracles and tracheal system resulting in suffocation in the case of the adult mosquitoes, beetles, mites, ticks, and wood borers.

Bug Slug Colloidal Pest Control is exceptionally powerful, safe, and readily biodegradable. Colloidal Chemistry creates Nano-sized particles called "colloidal micelles" that are invisible to the naked eye.

One nanometer = one-billionth of a meter = 1/80,000 the width of a human hair!

Micelles are sub-microscopic, electrically charged particles that, when activated in water, repel each other in a ceaseless random movement. Micelles in liquid solution measure only 2 to 4 nanometers in size, 50 to one hundred times smaller than the particles created from typical pest control solutions.

What is Bug Slug Colloidal Pest Control Made From?

Our All Natural Bug Slug Colloidal Pest Control Product is formulated with plant extracts from crops grown in North America. Precise blending with essential oils and spice extracts such as ; Thyme, Sage, and Oil of Cedar give our Bug Slug, Colloidal Pest Control muscle with NO Hazardous Chemicals additives.

CRI Green Label Plus Passes ANSI Audit

Just one year after The Carpet and Rug Institute earned accreditation as a product certifying body from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), CRI has successfully passed the first annual ANSI Surveillance Audit of their Green Label® and Green Label Plus® Indoor Air Quality certification programs. According to ANSI documents, auditors found CRI to be in strict adherence to the Green Label programs' policy and procedural standards.

The first environmental product certification program to be recognized by ANSI, Green Label and Green Label Plus were developed in the early 1990's as part of a voluntary effort by the soft floor covering industry to promote the positive aspects of carpet as a floor covering choice for homes and public buildings. Green Label and Green Label Plus certifications identify products that have been tested against the most stringent national and international indoor air quality standards.

CRI's Green Label Plus certifications are recognized by the State of California's Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS), which identifies 79 chemicals of concern and sets exacting limits on the allowable concentrations of these items in school classrooms. Additionally, the Green Label Plus programs contribute to totals under the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) sustainable building rating system.

The past year has seen rapid expansion of CRI's Green Label programs. Current participants include 32 U.S manufacturers, 12 Chinese firms, and a total of 17 entities from Canada, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Thailand, Australia, and United Arab Emirates. Recently, CRI received its first South American application for Green Label Plus accreditation from a Brazilian manufacturer.

"We are pleased our Green Label programs came through the ANSI audit with such flying colors," said CRI president, Werner Braun. "In the near future, CRI plans to expand ANSI certification to our Green Label adhesives and cushion programs, and eventually include all CRI signature programs."

The audit was conducted at CRI's Dalton, Georgia headquarters and Air Quality Sciences' Atlanta facility. Richard Stump of Consultants in Quality Inc. from Iowa City, Iowa conducted the audit for ANSI.

82 Percent of Consumers Buying Green Despite Economy

Four out of five people say they are still buying Green products and services today-which sometimes cost more-even in the midst of a U.S. recession. A new study commissioned by Green Seal (Washington DC) and EnviroMedia Social Marketing and conducted by Opinion Research Corporation reveals peoples' opinions and behaviors about products that claim to be environmentally friendly. Half of the 1,000 people surveyed say they are buying just as many Green products now as before the economic downturn, while 19 percent say they are buying more Green products. Fourteen percent say they are buying fewer environmentally Green products.

More "Green Claims" Education Needed

- About one in three consumers say they don't know how to tell if Green product claims are true.
- One in 10 consumers blindly trusts Green product claims.
- Consumers are verifying Green claims by reading the packaging (24%) and turning to research (going online, reading studies; 17%).

Study: Electric Hand Dryers Do More Harm than Good

Using paper towels to dry your hands is far more hygienic than using electric hand dryers which actually increase the amount of bacteria on hands and can spread cross contamination in public washrooms, according to an independent scientific study. The study, conducted by scientists at the University of Westminster, London, measured the number of bacteria on subjects' hands before washing and after drying them using three different methods —paper towels, a traditional warm air dyer and a new high-speed jet air dryer.

From a hygiene standpoint, paper towels are clearly superior to electric hand dryers, according to Keith Redway, a Senior Academic in the Department of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Westminster.

Study results show that drying with paper towels results in a significant decrease in the numbers of bacteria on the hands — a clear advantage compared with the increases observed for both types of electric hand dryers tested in this study — and are far less likely to contaminate other washroom users and the washroom environment.

"Indeed, these findings suggest that if either a warm air dryer or jet air dryer is the only drying method available, in terms of bacterial numbers, a washroom user could be better off not washing and drying their hands at all," Redway says.

The study, which is available for review at www.westminster.ac.uk/~redwayk, found that paper towel drying reduced the average number of bacteria on the finger pads by up to 76 percent and on the palms by up to 77 percent. By comparison, electric hand dryers actually caused bacteria counts to **increase**. The study showed:

- Traditional warm air dryers **increased** the average number of bacteria by 194 percent on the finger pads and by 254 percent on the palms.
- Jet air dryers increased the average number of bacteria on the finger pads by 42 percent and on the palms by 15 percent.

The scientists also carried out tests to establish whether there was the potential for cross contamination of other washroom users and the washroom environment as a result of each type of drying method. They found:

- The jet air dryer, which blows air out of the unit at claimed speeds of 400 mph, was capable of blowing micro-organisms from the hands and the unit and potentially contaminating other washroom users and the washroom environment up to 2 meters away.
- Use of a traditional warm air hand dryer spread micro-organisms up to 0.25 meters from the dryer.
- Paper towels showed no significant spread of micro-organisms.

"The results of all parts of this study suggest that the use of warm air dryers and jet air dryers should be carefully considered in locations where hygiene is of paramount importance, such as hospitals, clinics, schools, nurseries, care homes, kitchens and other food preparation areas," said Redway. "In addition, paper hand towel use is highly beneficial for improved hygiene in any other facilities open to the public, such as factories, offices, bars and restaurants." While consumers, healthcare institutions and businesses such as restaurants are often told that electric hand dryers are the most hygienic way to dry the hands after washing them, science says otherwise. A growing body of research, including this study by the University of Westminster and other studies as far back as 1989, suggest people could even be putting themselves at increased risk of illness by using electric hand dryers.

STUDIES SHOW UNSUSPECTING PUBLIC COULD BE PUTTING THEIR HEALTH AT RISK WHEN USING BULK SOAP FROM OPEN REFILLABLE SOAP DISPENSERS

"Every time you use soap from an open refillable bulk soap reservoir dispenser, you could be putting hundreds of millions of fecal bacteria on your hands, which is actually more than is in the toilet after you flush it," said Dr. Charles P. Gerba, microbiologist from the University of Arizona in Tucson.

The studies, conducted by the University of Arizona, under the direction of Dr. Charles P. Gerba, showed that approximately 23 to 25% of samples taken from open refillable bulk soap reservoir dispensers were contaminated with unsafe levels of bacteria. Coliforms, illness causing fecal-based organisms, were found in 16 to 22% of the samples.

The amount of contamination was higher in samples collected from health and fitness facilities. There, 33% of random samples taken from open refillable soap dispensers were contaminated with unsafe levels of bacteria. Coliforms, illness causing fecal-based organisms, were found in over 50% of the contaminated samples. Dr. Gerba suspected that the number of contaminates were higher due to the warmer environment in showers and sinks located in locker room areas.

In contrast, no bacterial contamination was found in soap dispensed from sealed systems. The findings from these studies were presented at a recent meeting of the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) in Toronto, Canada and will be presented in June at the National Environmental Health Association's Annual Conference.

Open refillable bulk soap reservoir dispensers utilize a refillable container from which product is dispensed. It is refilled by pouring soap into the container on an “as needed” basis. According to Dr. Gerba, the bacteria that were found in overwhelming numbers were opportunistic pathogens. Opportunistic pathogens are capable of causing serious infections in young people and people who are immunocompromised. He explained that these infections can range from eye, skin or respiratory infections.

Although young people and those who are immunocompromised are at greater risk of infection, Dr. Gerba says everyone is susceptible, especially if you have abrasions or open cuts or wounds. He adds that by washing your hands with contaminated soap, there is also the potential of spreading the germs each time you touch another surface.

While opportunistic pathogens predominated, Dr. Gerba said you should not rule out the existence of frank pathogens growing in these open refillable soap dispensers. Frank pathogens are unmistakable viruses, microorganisms or other substances that can cause disease in everyone, including healthy individuals. Dr. Gerba explained this study focused on the amount of bacteria in the systems. He noted that opportunistic pathogens that were predominate included Klebsiella, Enterobacter, and Serratia.

"We don't know all the different types of bacteria that can grow in the dispenser," said Dr. Gerba. "There could be frank pathogens that make everybody ill. So, my thinking is why take a chance?" He urged further testing to determine and identify disease-causing frank pathogens that might be housed at lower levels in these open refillable dispensers.

Meanwhile, does the type of open refillable bulk soap reservoir dispensers make a difference with regard to contamination? Dr. Gerba said any open refillable dispenser, whether plastic or stainless steel, could be subject to contamination. He cautioned that stainless steel dispensers may lend a false sense of security. "Stainless steel will not control microbial growth," responded Dr. Gerba. "They are very easy surfaces to clean., but they won't control microbial growth."

According to Dr. Gerba, the only safe solution to the risks of using open refillable bulk soap reservoir dispensers is to use sealed systems. Sealed systems utilize refill cartridges that are sealed during the manufacturing process. These high-capacity refills are used once and then discarded when empty.

The studies showed that no pathogens were found in soap collected from sealed systems.

Dr. Gerba explained, "A sealed system is sealed at the factory during manufacturing where the bulk system is actually refilled at the facility. It (bulk soap) may actually be diluted with water and may be contaminated from the water and people putting their fingers in the soap. That doesn't happen with a sealed system."

After analyzing the data from the study, Dr. Gerba concluded "I think the industry that supplies bulk soap should promote the use of sealed containers and not reusable fillable containers."

Dr. Gerba is a professor of environmental microbiology in the departments of Microbiology and Immunology and Soil, Water, and Environmental Science at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Germs Stick to Hands Washed with Contaminated Soap

The soap in one of four refillable bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms is contaminated, according to studies conducted by academic researchers. 1

New studies show that contaminated soap contributes to unsafe conditions beyond the dispenser, because contaminants stay on hands. Even worse, these contaminants can be transferred from washed hands to other surfaces, according to an independent laboratory that is a leading resource for antimicrobial product testing.

The soap in contaminated dispensers contains potential disease-causing organisms including *Klebsiella pneumoniae (*which could cause pneumonia, bronchitis, and other respiratory infections), and *Serratia marcescens* (which could cause infections of blood, wounds, eye infections, urinary tract, and the respiratory tract).

To analyze whether or not bacteria is transferred to other surfaces by hands washed with contaminated soap, two separate studies were conducted. The studies evaluated the presence of bacteria on the hands of people who washed their hands with contaminated soap, and assessed the potential of bacteria being transferred from hands to another surface.

Study participants' hands were tested for contamination using a modified method specified by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Common skin cleanser detergents contaminated with the *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Serratia marcescens* organisms were used.

Study participants were tested for these two bacteria, and then washed their hands using one of three different soaps: uncontaminated hand soap, soap contaminated with *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, or soap contaminated with *Serratia marcescens.* To replicate conditions typically found in bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms, the level of contamination in the soap was varied, and two different handwashing techniques were used.

The amount of bacteria present on each hand before and after hand washing was measured.

Results

Study results showed that participants who washed their hands with uncontaminated soap had none of the contaminating bacteria on their hands after washing. For those who washed their hands with the tainted soap, these bacteria were present on their hands after handwashing, especially when there was a high level of soap contamination.

It is known that washing hands with contaminated bulk soap results in contamination of the hands. This research also shows that bacteria left on hands after the use of contaminated soap can be transferred to other surfaces. This is also substantiated by other published literature.2,3

Bulk hand soap dispensers are susceptible to contamination, and can contain unsafe levels of bacteria. There is no protocol for cleaning and sanitizing these refillable dispensers. Even when someone attempts to clean a bulk soap dispenser, it is time-consuming and impractical. Facilities managers cannot trust that bulk soap dispensers are free of bacterial contamination.

We have suspected for some time that bacteria stays on hands washed with contaminated soap from bulk dispensers, and this study confirms our fears. Bulk soap contamination is an unnecessary health risk. The need to use factory-sealed containers for hand soap in public restrooms, rather than dispensing bulk soap through reusable, fillable containers, is a healthier choice –and some might say the only choice-- in order to avoid the bacterial contamination of hands and of surfaces touched by those hands.

- Gerba, C.P. et al, The Occurrence of Heterotrophic Bacteria, Coliforms, and Staphylococcus Aureus in Liquid Soap Samples from Public Restrooms. Unpublished study 2006. Bacterial Contamination of Liquid Hand Soaps. Unpublished Study. 2007 University of Arizona.
- Sartor, C. et al, Nosocomial *Serratia marcescens* Infections Associated with Extrinsic Contamination of a Liquid Nonmedicated Soap. *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*. 2000, 21:196-199.
- Casewell, M., Phillips, I. Hands as route of Transmission for Klebsiella Species. *British Medical Journal*. 1977, 2:1315-1317.

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