

# What's New Newsletter?



Myers Supply's newest product line combines sustainability principles with innovation. Our latest endeavor unites design and innovation that meets the functional needs of the present without compromising the performance of the traditional product.



HyBrid Xact Fit Smart Can Liners are manufactured with an exacting blend of resins, achieving a particular objective. We believe that every effort to conserve no matter how small is important sustaining a greener environment. When you purchase HyBrid Xact Fit Smart Can Liners you are doing your part to reduce energy, landfill volume, shipping weight and natural resources.

All HyBrid Xact Fit Smart Can Liners exceed the EPA's Recommended Recovered Materials Content Levels for Plastic Trash Bags and meets the LEED-EBOM requirements. HyBrid Xact Fit Smart Can Liners has up to 60% recycle content.

## New OptiServ Hybrid

The OptiServ Hybrid roll towel dispenser offers a unique touch free design with convenient mechanical option. The OptiServ Hybrid is available in five translucent color choices: Black, Red, Green, Blue and White.

### Dual Functionality Dispenser Design

Unique and elegant, the OptiServ Hybrid is ideal for office buildings, colleges and universities, and high-traffic restrooms. It offers the benefit of electronic touch free dispensing, as well as the convenience of hands-free mechanical dispensing when desired.



### Electronic Touch Free Dispensing

The OptiServ Hybrid offers touch free dispensing. Touch free operation is particularly important in public restrooms, with food preparation, and in healthcare environments where cross-contamination could be a concern. Touch free service meets customers demand for improved sanitation and supports the market trend toward automated restroom devices such as faucets and flush valves.

### Mechanical Hands-Free Dispensing

ADA compliant, the electronic/mechanical dual functionality of the OptiServ Hybrid is ideal for patrons who are more comfortable with mechanical operation. The mechanical emergency feed bar is conveniently located beneath the dispenser and designed for ease of use. Mechanical operation helps to sustain battery life.

## Myers Supply

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## 1,000 ft Roll Towels



Dubl-Nature Green Seal-certified embossed roll towels are 100% recycled and contain up to 49% post-consumer waste content. Roll towels are up to 1000 feet long and available in roll width of 8 inches.

Dubl-Nature roll towels feature consumer-like "leaf" embossing.



EcoSoft™ Green Seal roll towels are 100% recycled and made entirely from recovered fibers. Natural towels contain up to 82% post-consumer waste. These roll towels are certified as environmentally preferable by Green Seal, Inc. of Washington, DC. Roll towels are up to 1000 feet long and available in roll width of 8 inches.

## Myers Chemical & Supplies

Get more product info at: [www.Go2MyersSupply.com](http://www.Go2MyersSupply.com)

[MyersSupply.com](http://MyersSupply.com)

## Spectrum Vacuum

More Productivity. Better Filtration. Better Value. Advance's 15 and 18 inch Spectrum dual- motor upright vacuums deliver the superior performance results expected from Advance vacuums: dirt pickup and filtration. Upright vacuums rely on a combination of dirt pickup to remove soil from carpets and filtration to ensure that dust and other airborne particles stay captured. With the addition of a brush motor, the Spectrum dual-motor vacuum has a total of 1,350 watts of power.



Operators now have single pass power in an upright vacuum, which results in greater productivity. According to independent testing by ISSA, dual motor vacuums generate 16% greater productivity than single motor vacuum of the same width. The unique design of the power head creates a seal with the carpet surface to agitate and capture dirt and dust that other dual motor vacuums miss.

Spectrum's innovative design has earned the CRI (Carpet & Rug Institute) Seal of Approval – signifying that Spectrum meets the industry's newest dirt pickup and filtration standards for vacuum performance. These standards are more stringent than those used previously for Green Label certification. And, at a budget conscious price, it offers better performance and increased productivity at a fraction of the cost to clean.



## AquaClean Carpet Extractors

Smart Solutions DCM Dual Cleaning Mode technology is available on the AquaClean 16XP and 18FLX models. Smart Solutions DCM is the Smart Solution for fast dry times, reducing the cost to clean, increasing productivity and is environmentally friendly.

Engaging the low moisture/high productivity mode redirects the solution flow to the low moisture nozzle that sprays on the brush. Less chemical and water is used extending the time between dump and refill cycles and gets traffic back on the carpet faster.

Switching to deep restorative cleaning is just as easy. In this mode, increased moisture and aggressive brush agitation is used to help loosen tough soils in the front of the facility and in traffic lanes.



## Adphibian Soft & Hard Floor Machine

Advance's Adphibian soft and hard floor machine is designed to answer the multiple cleaning demands you face today.

Demands like getting maximum efficiency and flexibility from your operators and your equipment. The Adphibian enables cleaning staff to use one machine to pre-spray, and extract carpets and also scrub hard floors.



The Adphibian multi-surface machine is the first of its kind to be awarded the CRI Seal of Approval for low-moisture and deep-cleaning extraction. Adphibian features our patented dual-cleaning mode that lets operators choose between LIFT Low-moisture mode and Restoration mode. For daily carpet cleaning, Advance's patented LIFT technology (Low-moisture, Indirect spray, Fast dry time, True cleaning) uses a unique indirect spray that leaves carpets clean and dry in less than 30 minutes. For heavily soiled areas, nothing beats Adphibian's deep-extraction performance.

Adphibian's unique Deep Treat pre-spray mode allows you to quickly deep-treat heavily soiled areas by automatically applying and agitating any pre-spray detergent or encapsulate on your carpeted surfaces. A simple push of a button then allows the same area to be extracted with clean water.



## BlueForce Green Seal Hand Cleaner



STOKO BlueForce is the first Green Seal certified solvent-free, industrial strength hand cleaner which contains no scrubbing particles. It has a very good skin compatibility and excellent cleaning power in cases of common industrial dirt (e.g. grease, oil, mineral oil, lubricating oil, graphite and metal dust). Laboratory testing proved BlueForce to be significantly milder to the skin than competitive heavy-duty liquid cleansers.

BlueForce cleans effectively without damaging the skin. Its very good skin compatibility is achieved by the use of skin compatible surfactants and innovative formulation technology.

BlueForce is ideal for medium to heavy-duty cleansing applications. After years of ingredient research, combined with innovative technology, STOKO Skin Care has developed an industrial strength hand cleanser that goes far beyond traditional hand cleaning. Gentle on the skin, yet powerful on dirt, grease and grime STOKO BlueForce is perfect for a wide variety of applications where extra cleaning power is a must.

STOKO BlueForce is a force to be reckoned with. This solvent-free, grit-free hand cleanser does more than keep hands clean. It helps to keep the skin healthy. In the real working world, hands get dirty. Get them clean and keep them working by using BlueForce by STOKO Skin Care.



## Solopol USDA BioPreferred Hand Cleaner

SOLOPOL meets the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) status as BioPreferred and is a completely solvent-free hand cleaner which contains a non-aggressive natural scrubber. It has a very good skin compatibility and excellent cleaning power in cases of common industrial dirt (e.g. grease, oil, mineral oil, lubricating oil, graphite and metal dust) that often cannot be removed at all by products containing no scrubbers.



SOLOPOL® cleans deeply without damaging the skin. Its very good skin compatibility is achieved by the use of skin compatible surfactants. SOLOPOL® also contains the patented skin agent EUCORNOL® which, according to the results of dermatological tests, helps to prevent the occurrence of skin irritation.



The natural scrubber is made from walnut shell powder which is a renewable natural resource. As such, it does not strain the environment by depleting timber supplies (as in the case of wood flour) or oil resources (as in the case of plastic scrubber.) Additionally, it is completely biodegradable. SOLOPOL® does not clog drains or pipes. It is easily rinsed away and is not prone to swelling.

## Kresto Heavy Duty Hand Cleaner



Kresto® is an extra-heavy duty hand cleaner, ideal for the toughest industrial dirt. Contains a biodegradable natural scrubber, a safe solvent and the patented ingredient EUCORNOL®, which improves skin compatibility.

KRESTO® is a slightly acidic alkali-free hand cleaner which contains a biodegradable walnut shell scrubber and a safe solvent. It cleans extremely well in cases of intensely stubborn industrial dirt (e.g. grease, oil, soot, metal dust, lacquers, adhesives, etc.) that cannot be removed at all by products that are free of scrubbers and solvents.

Because skin is slightly acidic, KRESTO® has been formulated with a PH level that mirrors the skin's natural mantle to help keep skin healthy. KRESTO® contains the skin strengthening agent EUCORNOL® which, according to the results of dermatological tests, helps to prevent skin irritation.

Its natural scrubber is made from walnut shell powder which is a renewable natural resource. As such, it does not strain the environment by depleting timber supplies (as in the case of wood flours) or oil resources (as in the case of plastic scrubber.) Additionally, it is completely biodegradable.

## EPA Officially Launches Green Disinfectant Program

According to ISSA, on December 9, 2009, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched two much-anticipated voluntary pilot programs for disinfectants and sanitizers that will allow the use of the Design for the Environment (DfE) logo on certain products as well as allow the use of certain agency-approved factual statements of environmental preferability.

ISSA Legislative Affairs Director Bill Balek participated in the Comparative Claims Work Group assembled by the EPA for the purpose of developing the parameters of the pilot programs announced December 9. The Work Group met over the course of 15 months and consisted of representatives from industry, the EPA, state agencies, environmental groups, and other interested parties.



In regard to DfE recognition, registrants will be subject to a two-tier review process starting with review by the DfE program that will start accepting applications immediately, while the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) will start accepting applications on May 3, 2010. In addition, OPP will start accepting applications for the use of factual statements of environmental preferability on product labels on January 25, 2010.

## Study: MRSA Up 90 Percent Over 10 Years

The number of cases of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) infections has increased by more than 90 percent over the last decade, according to recent research led by Princeton University scholars. Ramanan Laxminarayan, a visiting scholar at the Princeton Environmental Institute, and Eili Klein, a visiting specialist in the ecology and evolutionary biology department, co-authored a paper on the spread of MRSA infections from 1999 through 2005.

In 2006, there were 278,203 reported cases of MRSA-related infection, more than double the number in 1999, according to the paper. As many as 17,280 people infected with MRSA died in 2005, more than the number of people who died of AIDS that year. The paper, published in the December 2007 issue of the journal *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, stressed that MRSA should be “considered a national priority for disease control.”

These infections are caused by the bacterium *Staphylococcus aureus*, which usually lives on the skin and in the nasal passages and can be harmful if it enters the body through a sore or cut.

The growing number of MRSA cases reflects the increasing resistance of *Staphylococcus* bacteria to antibiotics over the last few years. The researchers discovered that resistance to various antibiotics like ampicillin and erythromycin increased by more than 20 percent between 1999 and 2005, and the researchers said the widespread use of antibiotics in the past few decades has made their use less effective.

Klein explained that the increase in MRSA cases has consequences beyond health risks. People who have infections resistant to treatment face a number of extra costs because they “tend to stay longer in hospitals and may need more expensive drugs,” he said. For instance, the cost of treating MRSA infections can range between \$3,000 and \$36,000 more than a methicillin-sensitive infection, according to his research.

Klein added that he believes there is a need to reduce the inappropriate use of antibiotics, which helps the bacteria develop their resistance. For example, instead of prescribing antibiotics to patients who are sick and insist on being prescribed drugs to “make them feel better,” doctors should explain to their patients when they don’t need antibiotics, Klein said.

“Every time somebody uses an antibiotic, that reduces the number of times the antibiotic can ever be used because it’s going to create resistance,” he explained.

The researchers also discovered another important trend in their data. Hospital-associated MRSA infections, occurring mostly in patients with weakened immune systems, have been more common than community-associated MRSA infections, occurring among those who pick up the bacteria in fitness centers, common restrooms and other public places. The researchers found that the percentage of hospital outpatients who reported community-associated MRSA infections had jumped drastically from about 10 percent to roughly 50 percent between 1999 and 2005. They concluded that community-associated MRSA infections are currently spreading more rapidly, and that they are possibly making their way into hospitals.

To prevent transmission between people in the outpatient and inpatient units, Laxminarayan and Klein, in their paper, called for stringent hand-washing and other infection-control practices in hospitals.

*As seen on [DailyPrincetonian.com](http://DailyPrincetonian.com).*

## ISSA Joins With Ecoform to Develop Next Generation of Environmental Labels

ISSA and Ecoform have come together to develop an information-based environmental label (IBEL) designed specifically for the commercial cleaning industry. "IBEL is an ambitious effort to create the next generation of environmental labels that will complement existing eco-label programs while providing a uniform platform for companies to articulate the environmental attributes for the hundreds of product categories for which eco-label programs do not exist," said Jack Geibig, Ecoform president.



According to ISSA Legislative Affairs Director Bill Balek, "IBEL will directly benefit purchasers, distributors, and manufacturers by communicating, in a format similar to the food-nutrition label, critical health and environmental information associated with cleaning products. Moreover, IBEL will encourage and reward continuous improvement by innovative manufacturers that produce leadership products."

Existing eco-label programs have done a wonderful job of encouraging the cleaning industry to transition to products with a preferred environmental and safety-and-health profile. However, current product-certification programs have demonstrated inherent limitations, including, but not limited to, the following:



- Existing standards cover only a limited set of products, leaving hundreds if not thousands of "orphan" products with no options for certification or third-party verification
- Current eco-label programs employ simple pass/fail criteria that do not reward companies for continuous product innovation and further reductions in health and environmental impact
- Many small and medium-sized companies are unable to fully participate in eco-label programs because of the high cost of certification.

IBEL is being developed by Ecoform in collaboration with ISSA. Geibig is leading the development process in cooperation with a Core Development Committee that is composed of key stakeholders, including health and environmental advocates, unions, state and federal government representatives, eco-label organizations, large and small cleaning-product manufacturers, contract cleaners, and institutional purchasers. For a complete list of the members of the Core Development Committee, visit [www.issa.com/data/File/regulatory/IBEL%20Fact%20Sheet-FINAL.pdf](http://www.issa.com/data/File/regulatory/IBEL%20Fact%20Sheet-FINAL.pdf).

While IBEL is under development, characteristics of this new labeling system will include the following:

- Expands and standardizes the set of health and environmental metrics for product reporting
- Information-based format compliments existing eco-labels and criteria
- Quantitative reporting system rewards continued product innovation, reducing potential health and environmental impacts
- Flexible system expands access to third-party verification to products not currently covered under existing labels, such as tools, equipment, and niche chemical products
- Multiple product verification tiers, up to and including full product verification by third-party verifiers
- IBEL product registry provides unprecedented access to select product data in a searchable, transparent system
- Affordable tiered fee structure expands access to small and medium-sized manufacturers
- Reduced fees for products with existing eco-label certification from recognized programs.

### About Ecoform

Ecoform is an organization dedicated to securing a sustainable future through clean product innovation. Ecoform and its president, Jack Geibig, have extensive experience in leading environmental product standards for a wide range of products, including standards for green cleaning chemicals, toys, building products, and consumer electronics.

### About ISSA

The leading trade association for the cleaning industry worldwide, ISSA has a membership that includes more than 5,500 distributor, manufacturer, manufacturer representative, building service contractor, in-house service provider, and associated service members. ISSA offers the industry's largest cleaning shows in conjunction with Amsterdam RAI under the brand name ISSA/INTERCLEAN®, the popular Web site ISSA.com, educational products, industry standards, periodicals, and legislative and regulatory services that specifically focus on the professional cleaning industry.

## New Research Shows Patients Have Role in Promoting Hand Hygiene Among Clinicians

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Catholic Healthcare Partners (CHP) and the Premier healthcare alliance today released research showing that a video can be an effective tool for encouraging patients to remind healthcare staff to wash their hands.

The research tested the effectiveness of a CDC video called "Hand Hygiene Saves Lives." The video encourages patients, family and visitors to play a role in their own care by helping healthcare professionals remember to clean their hands before and after touching patients. After the video was shown to patients in 17 CHP facilities, patients were twice as likely to report reminding nurses to wash their hands, and doctors were twice as likely to report being asked by patients to wash their hands.

"Research has shown that hand hygiene adherence among medical professionals is less than optimal, despite long-standing evidence showing that it helps prevent healthcare-associated infections (HAIs)," said Dr. John Jernigan of the CDC. "This video is a tool hospitals can use to empower patients to participate in their own care and reduce their risk of acquiring an infection by reminding caregivers to perform hand hygiene."

There are approximately 1.7 million HAIs and nearly 100,000 associated deaths among hospitalized patients each year. In addition, infections cost the healthcare system between \$35-45 billion annually.



"Preventing HAIs is a high priority goal at all CHP hospitals, and we believe that patients can partner with us to assure safe and high-quality care," said Carolyn Wieging RN, BSN, CIC, infection prevention and control manager at St. Rita's Medical Center. "This video encourages that partnership by making it clear that it is perfectly acceptable to ask care givers to wash their hands to reduce their risk of infection."

"We are pleased to see that the video we developed with the CDC is having such a positive impact on patient empowerment," said Christine Nutty, RN, MSN, CIC, 2009 president of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) which helped to create "Hand Hygiene Saves Lives." "Hand hygiene is the No. 1 way to prevent the spread of infection, so these are really encouraging results. We hope this leads to increased hand hygiene compliance and improved patient outcomes."

"Before every airline flight, passengers are shown a safety video so they know how to respond in an emergency," said Victoria Nahum, executive director of the Safe Care Campaign, which helped to develop Hand Hygiene Saves Lives. "We need the same safety resources in healthcare. This video teaches patients how to minimize the risk of infection and is providing tools to take action and advocate for highest quality care."



After watching the video, the majority of patients:

- reported that the video increased their knowledge about hand hygiene;
- reported that the video is a useful tool to educate patients about hand hygiene; and recommended that the video be shown to other patients.

"Nurses and doctors work every day to deliver the best patient outcomes, and our data confirm that care givers recognize the importance of handwashing as a strategy for preventing infections in patients and themselves," said Gina Pugliese, RN, MS, vice president of the Premier Safety Institute. "The majority of doctors and nurses said they would feel comfortable being asked by a patient or family member to wash their hands, recognizing the need for a reminder. This research shows that patient empowerment should be just one more tool we employ as part of our multi-pronged approach to improve hand washing."

The video can also be downloaded directly from the CDC Web site ([http://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/Patient\\_Admission\\_Video.html](http://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/Patient_Admission_Video.html)), or free DVD copies may be ordered from CDC by calling 1-800-CDC-INFO.



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