

What's New Newsletter?

Bio-based Alcohol Hand Sanitizers

Why Bio-based? Bio-based products are composed wholly or in significant part of biological products including renewable agricultural or forestry materials. Using bio-based products make a difference by enhancing production of our domestic resources, encouraging rural manufacturing, and reducing the need for oil-based



ingredients. Kutol's alcohol hand sanitizer disinfect with ethanol derived from grain grown on domestic farms, not from petroleum, thus sustaining nature's own cycle.

No water needed. 62% ethanol alcohol based formula meets CDC recommendations for the highest hand antiseptics. Easy rub-in and great after-feel. Dye and fragrance free, the popular foam-style encourages usage.

Reach your environmental goals and maintain healthy, sanitary facilities with bio-based hand hygiene products.

Porta Roll Green Seal Bath Tissue

With fewer refills required, maintenance time is reduced up to 90%. This dispenser holds the equivalent of 15 rolls of the leading consumer bath tissue. The perforated tissue rolls are fully covered by the dispenser, which improves sanitation and eliminates pilferage. Tough polycarbonate cover is vandal-proof, break-resistant, and flame-retardant which makes this dispenser beyond compare!



- **Maximum tissue in minimum space**
- **Reduce maintenance up to 90%**
- **Less mess and less waste**
- **Fast and easy to load**
- **Virtually indestructible**



This soft, 2-ply, super absorbent tissue is ideally suited for use with our Mini-Twin Tissue Dispenser. The 15" perf reduces the likelihood that tissue will break off inside the dispenser and helps prevent loose sheets on the floor.

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SuperScrape Eco



Myers Supply is pleased to announce the addition of the all new Super Scrape Eco mat to our SelectGreen line of environmentally friendly mat products.

Super Scrape Eco mats are manufactured with 95% post consumer recycled car tires. It is available in 3x5 size and is ideal for use as an outside scraper mat or for use indoors where slip resistance is important.

This durable mat has a multi-directional molded pattern surface to work equally well in horizontal or vertical placements. Its heavy weight helps to keep the Super Scrape Eco mat in place even with cart traffic.

Each Super Scrape Eco mat has the recycle symbol molded into the face to further promote the recycle feature of this environmentally friendly mat to the facilities guests.

superSCRAPE™

Myers Chemical & Supplies

Get more product info at: www.Go2MyersSupply.com

MyersSupply.com

Gram-Negative Bacteria *Acinetobacter baumannii*

As reported in The New York Times, a little-known category of “gram-negative” bacteria and germs called *Acinetobacter baumannii* are killing “tens of thousands of hospital patients each year.” Compared to MRSA (methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*), which receives considerable media and medical attention and for which there are some antibiotics available to fight the disease, there are no antibiotics to battle this new strain of bacteria, which infectious disease experts say makes it an even greater threat.

Acinetobacter baumannii are typically hospital-acquired bacteria that enter the body through open wounds, catheters and breathing tubes. They usually infect those with compromised immune systems, such as the wounded, the elderly, young children or people with immune diseases.

Unlike gram-positive bacteria that have a single-cell membrane, gram-negative bacteria have a double-cell membrane. This helps shield the bacteria from antibiotic treatment, making them difficult, and in many cases impossible, to eradicate. Making the situation worse, because this form of bacteria is so hard to treat, drug manufacturers have shown little interest in developing antibiotics for it.

In fact, the Infectious Diseases Society of America reports that at this time there are no middle- or late-stage clinical trials directed specifically at gram-negative organisms or *Acinetobacter baumannii*.

The Times article concludes that for the time-being, the most effective treatment for this and similar gram-negative bacteria diseases is prevention.

Proper hand washing is at the top of the list, but right behind it is the need to keep surfaces hygienically clean. Administrators should also consider adding ATP rapid monitoring systems to their cleaning arsenal. This way they can test surfaces quickly to make sure they are hygienically clean and stay that way.



Disinfectants with efficacy claims for *Acinetobacter baumannii*

Energizer Q

Acinetobacter baumannii ATCC 19003 5
Acinetobacter Iwoffii ATCC 15309
Acinetobacter Iwoffii ATCC 9957

Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner Deodorizer

A multi-purpose, neutral pH, germicidal detergent and deodorant effective in hard water up to 400 ppm (calculated as CaCO₂) in the presence of a moderate amount of soil (5% organic serum) according to the AOAC Use Dilution Test. Disinfects, cleans and deodorizes in one labor-saving step. Has an economical use dilution rate of 1:128 per gallon.

A-OK Concentrate

Acinetobacter baumannii ATCC 19003 5
Acinetobacter Iwoffii ATCC 15309
Acinetobacter Iwoffii ATCC 9957

Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner Deodorizer

A multi-purpose, neutral pH, disinfectant cleaner with a Puri fragrance, kills HIV-1, (associated with AIDS), HBV (Hepatitis B virus). Safe on floors, phosphate free and utilizes biodegradable surfactants. Use dilution 1:64.

Natural Solution #51

Acinetobacter baumannii ATCC 19003 5
Acinetobacter Iwoffii ATCC 15309
Acinetobacter Iwoffii ATCC 9957

Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner Deodorizer

Made without phosphates, solvents, harsh caustics, added dyes, fragrance or nonylphenol exotholate surfactants, this neutral disinfectant cleaner will provide a superior level of sanitation to areas where cross-contamination of germs is of concern, such as restrooms, locker rooms, and healthcare facilities. Use dilution 1:64.

Natural Solution #50

Acinetobacter baumannii ATCC 19003 5
Acinetobacter Iwoffii ATCC 15309
Acinetobacter Iwoffii ATCC 9957

Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner Deodorizer

A multi-purpose, neutral pH, germicidal detergent and deodorant effective in hard water up to 400 ppm (calculated as CaCO₂) in the presence of a moderate amount of soil (5% organic serum) according to the AOAC Use Dilution Test. Disinfects, cleans and deodorizes in one labor-saving step. Has an economical use dilution rate of 1:256 per gallon.

Identity and Numbers of Bacteria Present on Tabletops and in Dishcloths Used to Wipe Down Tabletops in Public Restaurants and Bars

Dishcloths used in restaurants and bars (23 restaurant cloths, 14 bar cloths) were collected, and tabletops (10 restaurants) were swabbed, to determine the occurrence of bacteria. Coliforms were isolated from 89.2% of dishcloths and 70% of tabletops. *Escherichia coli* was isolated from 54.1% of dishcloths and 20% of tabletops. The numbers of heterotrophic plate count bacteria (HPC) and coliforms were significantly higher in bars than in restaurants. The levels of HPC found in dishcloths were 25-fold and coliforms were 60- to 120-fold lower than the levels found in home dishcloths reported in previous studies. The numbers recovered from restaurant tabletops were also lower than those from household kitchen countertops. The most commonly isolated genera from dishcloths in restaurants and bars differed from those in homes. **The numbers found for heterotrophic plate count bacteria (HPC) on restaurant tabletops were 45-fold greater after cleaning than prior to cleaning.** There were also a 19-fold greater number of coliforms and twice as many *E. coli*. Therefore, although the mandatory use of sanitizers in restaurants and bars may have reduced contamination levels and caused a shift in the microbial populations present in food service establishments, the implication of dishcloths in contamination of tabletops through cleaning suggests that current monitoring of linen sanitation solutions might be inadequate.

M. Susana Yepiz-Gomez, Kelly R. Bright, and Charles P. Gerba
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Microfiber Waffle-Weave Towel



Microfiber Weave Towels are virtually lint-free. The waffle-weave creates more efficient cleaning by providing greater surface contact and absorbs more than seven times its weight in liquid, much more than conventional bar towels.

Stop using harsh chemicals to clean your tabletops and save money when you stop buying paper towels and expensive cleaners. This is a revolutionary cleaning cloth that works on any surface, but is ideal for use in the kitchen and bath, where dirt is caked on and hard to clean. It is made of the highest quality microfiber, woven into a unique waffle-weave pattern. This enables the cloth to scrub and dry better than regular microfiber cloths, and much better than cotton rags or traditional cleaning cloths. It will easily glide across any surface, trapping grease, grime, dust and micro particles, leaving your kitchen or bathroom clean, streak-free and polished. Use these Waffle Weave Cleaning Cloths for dusting, polishing, drying dishes and more. Or use it damp for cleaning surfaces all over your kitchen and bathroom.

This cloth is meant to be used for cleaning without chemicals. You can use cleansers if you want to, but its unique design, and microfiber material, enables this cloth to clean 98-99% of all dirt, dust, germs and bacteria with only water as a detergent. An 80/20 blend of both oil-attracting and water-attracting polymers are woven into masses of tiny hooks & loops. The edges of these millions of hooks & loops cut through dirt, lift it off the surface, and store it for later disposal. This enables you to clean faster, easier and safer.

PuraPail HACCP Color System

PuraPail meets HACCP dedicated use guidelines for cleaning and sanitizing cloths used to wipe down surface areas. PuraPail make it easy to separate containers used for food storage from those used for dangerous non-food purposes. They also eliminate any potential confusion between cleaning and sanitizing solution containers – **Green PuraPail** are used for cleaning solutions and **Red PuraPail** are used for sanitizing solutions.

Prevent cross-contamination and chemical hazards with PuraPail Color System. Dedicated colored cleaning pails separate use by type of chemical, task or work area. Helps prevent dangerous chemicals from being misused, or food and non-food cleaning tools from cross-contamination. Clear imprinting includes markable area for use dedication and important safety precautions. It is an effective training and process monitoring tool.



New Standard Helps Limit Indoor Air Contaminants

NSF International and the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute (GEI) announced the joint development of a health-based standard that addresses chemical emissions from products.

This comprehensive standard will streamline the myriad methods currently used for measuring and limiting chemical emissions from products, and will incorporate the most recent science on human health and toxicology to provide acute and chronic chemical exposure limits.



The final GEI-NSF standard will serve as a valuable tool for sustainability programs: federal, state, and local governments, code officials, architects and designers, health professionals, specifying professionals, and consumers by helping them choose products that minimize air pollutants in indoor environments.

"Building occupants are exposed to thousands of chemicals emitted from products-many of them harmful-and few programs address more than a small percentage of these compounds," said Henning Bloech, executive director of GEI. "I am hopeful that this effort will go beyond existing programs and create a new, health-focused leadership standard that consumers, manufacturers, and building codes and rating systems can adopt to minimize chemical exposure."

The GEI-NSF standard will be developed under the American National Standard Institute's (ANSI) Essential Requirements for adoption as an ANSI Standard. The ANSI Standard development process ensures that the standard is developed in a balanced, open, and collaborative manner with participation from multiple stakeholders to avoid potential conflicts of interest. A consensus committee made up of government and public health officials, academics, industry leaders, and product users helps develop and vote on the standard, while a group of subject matter experts provides insight and guidance. Subsequent mandatory public comment periods allow individual stakeholders and organizations to participate in the development process.

"This collaboration was a natural fit for our two organizations, as GEI and NSF both strive to protect public health as part of their mission," said Jane Wilson, Director of Standards Development for NSF International. "Integrating GREENGUARD's expertise in product emissions and NSF International's expertise in standards development will help to improve indoor air quality."



Sanitary Maintenance, along with its sister publications Contracting Profits and Housekeeping Solutions, is hosting the CleaningGreen Virtual Conference & Expo on Tuesday, May 11, 2010 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (EDT).

The free, live online event will provide jan/san distributors, building service contractors, in-house service providers and facility executives with access to industry experts and suppliers that focus on green cleaning in the commercial cleaning market without having to leave their office.

Like a brick-and-mortar event, speakers and exhibitors will inform, interact and network with attendees. However, unlike a traditional trade show, the interaction is conducted via Webcasts, scheduled group chats and message boards.

The CleaningGreen Expo & Conference's exhibit hall will feature virtual booths of green cleaning manufacturers who can engage with attendees using live, online chat for private conversations. At the booths, attendees can also view demonstrations of the newest products and access additional product information.

Throughout the day, five education sessions will be held covering current, critical green issues, including sustainability, green cleaning legislation, new product certifications, green attributes of day cleaning, and exploring the partnership distributors can forge with their customers to create green programs.

The show also features a resource library where attendees can download case studies, articles and other important information. The lounge area will allow distributors to network and share information with colleagues as well as end users.

Registration is open now at <http://www.cleanlink.com/cleaninggreenexpo/>.

Following the live event on May 11, the show will be archived on www.cleanlink.com.



EPA Improves DfE Standard for Safer Cleaning Products

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Design for the Environment (DfE) Program recently enhanced its [Standard for Safer Cleaning Products](#), the cornerstone of its "green" product recognition program, by establishing an auditing process that includes on-site and desk audits.

"ISSA applauds DfE for this significant upgrade to its environmental standard for cleaning products," said Bill Balek, Director of Environmental Services, ISSA. "This significant improvement will not only ensure a more robust standard and product recognition program, but ultimately will pave the way for increased market acceptance of the DfE mark," added Balek.



In addition to establishing an auditing process for the DfE product recognition program, the recent enhancements also include provisions that allow recognition of products in certain continuous dispensing systems, and clarifications of certain terms related to third party partners.

The primary purpose of the newly adopted auditing process is to ensure that DfE-labeled product contain the same ingredients as were reported to DfE during the partnership development process. According to EPA officials, the audit process will serve an important role in encouraging self-surveillance and good management practices, as well as building trust among institutional purchasers and the public in the value and reliability of the DfE product recognition program.

The enhancements to the DfE program were proposed based on the suggestions of a Technical Improvement Group formed by EPA and comprised of a diverse group of stakeholders including industry, environmental groups, state agencies, purchasers and others who have an interest in green cleaning products. ISSA's Balek is a member of the Group that meets regularly for the purpose of exploring ways to improve the DfE Standard for Safer Cleaning Products.

In setting forth its recommendations on establishing an audit process for DfE, the Technical Improvement Group followed guiding principles designed to ensure that the audit program is effective and efficient, while at the same time minimizing the burden on industry participants in the DfE program.

Under the new provisions, each year, DfE partners will experience one of three auditing processes: a desk audit; an on-site audit; or partnership renewal. The sequencing of these processes will depend on where a partner currently is in the three-year partnership cycle. DfE's third-party reviewers (NSF International and ToxServices) will administer the audit process.

More information on the recent enhancements to the DfE program can be found on the DfE web site at www.epa.gov/dfe - see the text box on the top right side of the home page.

OSHA to increase fines and penalties

To increase compliance with its regulations, the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will implement a Severe Violator Enforcement Program (SVEP) and increase non-compliance fines within the next month, according to a press release.



The SVEP initiative is aimed at stricter enforcement and more stringent penalties to those who willfully and repeatedly place their workers in harm's way by consistently failing to comply with OSHA rules and regulations, the release stated. According to the release, an employer who qualifies for the SVEP will find its worksite subject to increased inspections, which would extend to other worksites owned by the employer where similar violations might exist, and mandatory follow-up inspections of all worksites involved.

The average penalty is expected to increase from the current \$1,000 to between \$3,000 and \$4,000, a figure which will be determined as OSHA conducts extensive outreach into the issue, the release noted. Dr. David Michaels, assistant secretary of labor for OSHA, said: "Although we are making significant adjustments in our penalty policy within the tight constraints of our law, this administrative effort is no substitute for the meaningful and substantial penalty changes included in the Protecting America's Workers Act (PAWA)." If passed, PAWA would increase OSHA penalties from \$7,000 to \$12,000 for a serious violation and from \$70,000 to \$250,000 for a willful violation; the act would also tie future penalty increases to inflation, the release added.

SDA Comments on FDA Policy on Triclosan

According to recent announcements, The FDA (Food and Drug Administration) will be taking a closer look at soap and other common cleaning products that contain an ingredient called triclosan. According to the agency, some studies have hinted at possible health side effects that may come from exposure to the ingredient and want to investigate further.

Triclosan is a type of antibacterial agent used in soap, toothpaste and other household items, and right now the FDA says there is no cause for concern. But, in an animal study, exposure to triclosan was shown to alter hormone levels in test subjects, and the FDA wants to investigate this finding.

In a recent statement, the Soap and Detergent Association expressed concern over statements made by the FDA on the effectiveness of this key ingredient used in beneficial antibacterial soaps and body washes. SDA said it will continue providing an informed perspective to the FDA on the ingredient triclosan.

“The Food and Drug Administration has in its hands a wealth of scientific data showing a distinct germ killing benefit of antibacterial soaps containing triclosan.”



THE SOAP AND DETERGENT ASSOCIATION

Benefits Demonstrated

Two recent scientific papers have been published demonstrating the effectiveness of antibacterial soaps in comparison to non-antibacterial soaps. A substantial body of data demonstrates that over-the-counter (OTC) antibacterial hand wash products are more effective at reducing the risk of bacterial infection compared to washing with non-antibacterial soap.

Additionally, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 76 million cases of foodborne illnesses occur each year in the U.S. The acquisition and transmission of bacteria during food preparation play a significant role in causing these infections, and published studies have linked outbreaks of gastrointestinal disease to poor hand washing practices.

Most importantly, these ingredients are used in products that play a beneficial role in the daily hygiene routines of millions of people. Antibacterial hygiene and cleaning products continue to be used safely and effectively in homes, hospitals, and workplaces every single day. Science-based risk analysis backs this up, thanks to the industry's long-standing research and product stewardship efforts.

Antibacterial ingredients like triclosan are regulated by governmental bodies around the world and have a long track record of human and environmental safety, many of whom have specifically found these ingredients to be safe for use in hygiene and cleaning products. In the U.S., these ingredients are regulated by the Food and Drug Administration or the Environmental Protection Agency, depending upon the type of product that contains them.

Addressing Rep. Markey's Concerns

SDA said it would look forward to providing information to Rep. Edward Markey (D-Massachusetts), who has challenged FDA and EPA's regulation of antibacterial ingredients and overall product safety.

“We want Congressman Markey to be aware of the wealth of high quality scientific data that has been provided to both EPA and FDA on the safety and efficacy of antimicrobial products.”

Consumer Can Use Products With Confidence

“Consumers can continue using antibacterial hygiene products with confidence. We strongly believe consumers should continue to have access to these beneficial products.”

“These ingredients are known quantities. They have been safely and effectively used for decades. Extensive research shared with authorities in the U.S. and abroad shows wide margins of safety when it comes to human, aquatic or animal exposure.”

“We should be wary of over-interpreting FDA's announcement and unrealistically linking the detection of minute traces of ingredients with concerns for ingredient and product safety. “Additionally, it's worth repeating that numerous scientific reviews have shown there is no real world evidence linking the use of antibacterial products to antibiotic resistance.” Cleaning product safety can be found online at www.cleaning101.com/antibacterial.



Myers Chemical & Supplies
Get more product info at: www.Go2MyersSupply.com