Sanitation Canada

ANTS: Small Steps Can Mitigate Canada's Biggest Pest Issue

Should we throw Cold Water on cold water cleaning?

Why Certify? A Matter of Health & Safety

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INSIDE ISSA
ISSA engages GSA on federal strategic sourcing. In recent weeks, ISSA has had several meetings with officials of the United States General Services Administration (GSA), the U.S. Small Business Administration and congressional representatives in support of the association’s efforts, to mitigate the anticipated substantial adverse economic impact that federal strategic sourcing will have on the commercial cleaning products industry.

HAND HYGIENE
Turn This Year’s New Year Resolution Into A Hand Hygiene Revolution. The lessons learned from the simple-turned-complex nature of the New Year’s Resolution have significant parallels with the efforts of hand hygiene champions. While there continues to be a drive and intent to improve compliance, there never seems to be long-lasting success.

PEST CONTROL
ANTS: Small Steps Can Mitigate Canada’s Biggest Pest Issue.

FOCUS ON FLOORCARE
Should we throw COLD WATER on cold water cleaning? In 2005, as part of a Green cleaning initiative, New York Public Schools instructed all custodians to use only cold water when performing cleaning tasks...including carpet cleaning. (Page 18)

IN THE FIELD
Why Certify? A Matter of Health and Safety. The health care field requires that all people that provide direct care to patients and residents must be certified or licensed. Certification and licensing are provided by governing bodies and/or professional associations.

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ISSA Engages GSA on Federal Strategic Sourcing

In recent weeks, ISSA has had several meetings with officials of the United States General Services Administration (GSA), the U.S. Small Business Administration and congressional representatives in support of the association’s efforts, to mitigate the anticipated substantial adverse economic impact that federal strategic sourcing will have on the commercial cleaning products industry.

Meetings conducted in November with GSAs associate administrator for Small Business Utilization resulted in the JanSan Request for Quotation’s (RFQ) response date being extended to Dec. 5, 2013 to provide more time to make a case.

In addition, on Nov. 26, ISSA met with GSA Commissioner Thomas Sharpe and Jeffrey Koses, GSAs director of Acquisition Operations, in Washington D.C., to discuss the possibility of revising the RFQ to minimize the economic fallout.

Specifically, ISSA advocated for an extension of the RFQ response date and increased business opportunities for association members under the strategic sourcing framework by calling upon GSA to:

(1) Increase the number of Blanket Purchase Awards (BPAs) awarded under the JanSan RFQ from 21 to 100. Increasing the number of BPAs awarded, among other things, will provide ample competition, which will ensure best value for the customer while continuing to yield savings to GSA.

(2) Implement a Small Business Recertification requirement that would be triggered at the Task Order Level and at pre-determined dates during the life of the BPA. This approach will allow inclusion of an onboarding strategy that allow new small business entrants to replace those businesses that grow to “Other Than Small Business,” as a result of the directed spending that will be generated by the BPA.

(3) Create a pool or preference for buying groups. ISSA recommends a minimum of four, which will ensure na-
DURABILITY

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DURABILITY

The American Lung Association and ProTeam are partners in an educational campaign about Indoor Air Quality issues. The American Lung Association does not endorse products.
ISSA Engages GSA on Federal Strategic Sourcing

Continued From Page 6

ISSA has launched a new mobile game for the cleaning industry: Angry Janitors. The game is a free app aiming to educate players on hygiene awareness while keeping them engaged and entertained. The app boasts more than 2,200 downloads since its release.

Developed for iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch and Android smartphones and tablets, the Angry Janitors game is available for download at www.issa.com/angry or by searching “Angry Janitors” in the iTunes App Store or Google Play.

Angry Janitors combines entertainment and education in one memorable mobile gaming package. Its timing is fitting, particularly as smartphones surpassed laptops as the primary WiFi device in 2013, representing 40 per cent of all connections compared to 36 per cent for laptops. According to a 2011 study by Biz Tech Day, about 64 per cent of smartphone owners use

If implemented in this manner, the estimated 1000 or so jan-san vendors who currently do business with the federal government would be reduced to 21 vendors—meaning that close to 980 companies would be precluded from doing any further business with the federal government, and would suffer a substantial loss in sales revenues, leading to likely layoffs and cause.

Next Steps. ISSA awaits GSA’s response to its aforementioned suggestions to improve the JanSan RFQ. The association is also contemplating filing an official protest if GSA continues to move forward with implementing the RFQ as drafted. A protest would have the effect of slowing the process down, and also provide industry with the opportunity to negotiate a preferred outcome with GSA officials.

For more information on ISSA’s efforts in regard to federal strategic sourcing, please contact Bill Balek, ISSA, (800) 225-4772.

ISSA Introduces Mobile Game for Cleaning Industry

Continued On Page 10

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As each year draws to a close, many individuals begin to scribble down aspects of their daily lives that they would like to change. Some may want to lose weight. Others want to abdicate a bad habit. Collectively, these decisions are the annual New Year’s Resolutions and they have become as common as the singing of “Auld Lang Syne” at the stroke of midnight.

The annual practice of ‘resolution’ writing is cemented in history, beginning with the Babylonians some 4000 years ago. Back then, borrowed items were returned and neighbours once again found harmony in their co-existence.

In 153 BC, the two-faced Roman god, Janus, was placed at the head of the calendar, offering those a chance to reflect on the past and look forward to a better future. The ritual was formally introduced back in 1722, when the American theologian Jonathan Edwards ‘resolved’ to act differently in the new year. And, the always entertaining Mark Twain said, in 1863, that New Year’s Day “is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions.” He also mentioned in his notorious way that, within a week, they would most likely be disregarded.

As Twain implies, resolutions can be great fun to declare, yet they are not quite as easy to keep. In the 1980s, addiction researchers looked into this phenomenon and found that there were several factors involved in poor adherence to stated goals. For the most part, there was a lack of proper willpower on the part of the resolver, and a turn towards wishful thinking and negative self-feedback when slips occurred. But that wasn’t the entire problem.

It turned out that in most of the cases of failure, there was a lack of a support structure and appropriate planning within the group to help ensure the goal was achieved. This led the American Psychological Association to suggest that support is as important as the actual acts themselves. In essence, the resolution had to turn into a personally-led revolution in order to succeed. With everyone working together, the objective is attained.

The lessons learned from the simple-turned-complex nature of the New Year’s Resolution have significant parallels with the efforts of hand hygiene champions. While there continues to be a drive and intent to improve compliance, there never seems to be long-lasting success. This hindrance has become almost too common and, in some cases, led to campaign fatigue.

The reasons for a lack of adherence are numerous although a closer inspection reveals that they are not unmanageable. What is needed is a proper plan that everyone agrees will work, a global mentality to achieve the goal and, most importantly, a support structure that is comprised not...
ISSA Introduces Mobile Game for Cleaning Industry

The game offers a number of facts and tips on the true value of proper cleaning that provide educational value between levels. Angry Janitors game play features three stages – The School, The Office and The Hospital – each with 10 levels. King Dirt, King Germ and their unwelcome cast of filthy underlings have invaded these facilities, and students, workers, patients and staff are getting sick. It’s up to the player to help the janitors – Sweepy, Squirt, and Speedster – eliminate dirt and germs at each level, and rack up points along the way.

“While Angry Janitors is intended to be entertaining for players of all ages, the game also helps to change the way the world views cleaning by promoting the importance of clean and healthy environments, and the crucial role that cleaning professionals play in facilities worldwide,” said ISSA Web Communications Director Jon Adkins.

Players earn Golden Plungers when high scores are posted at each level, and the game features a “Top Cleaners” leader board where players can compare their scores to the thousands of fellow competitors worldwide who have already downloaded the game. If a level proves particularly tricky, the game offers Super-Sized Cleaners to instantly wipe out remaining germs and dirt, and help players advance to the next level. Additional Super-Sized Cleaners are available as in-app purchases.

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Irene Boutakos, Fernando Tongco, Mary Bramley, Joselita Bermudo (kneeling), Leinard Dobbie

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When you think of the most dangerous and irritating pests, ants may not come to mind and are often brushed aside as a simple nuisance. However, these small, seemingly unthreatening insects are Canada’s biggest pest problem.

Ants can inflict painful stings, cause structural damage to buildings and pose health threats ranging from anaphylactic shock to spreading dangerous pathogens. With more than 700 species across the country and up to 500,000 ants in a single colony, they should not be overlooked when it comes to keeping your facility clean, safe and ant-free.

Though Canada is home to many ant species, the top pest species include carpenter ants, pavement ants, pharaoh ants, moisture or cornfield ants, argentine ants, velvety ants and, most recently, the European fire ant.

Carpenter and velvety ants favor trees and dead wood, and can infest the structure of a building. Pharaoh and moisture ants tend to nest in warm, moist areas, while argentine ants have the ability to adapt to the indoors. Little is known about the European fire ant, a new ant species spreading across North America, but it does pose health risks and can kill small animals with its stings.

No matter the species, prevention is key to effectively managing ants as infestations can be difficult to control once inside a building.

Ants, like all pests, are constantly seeking the three survival elements – food, water and shelter – and your facility provides...

Continued On Page 14
Introducing...

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They can squeeze through the tiniest cracks and nest in areas often out of sight, such as in walls, closets or landscaping surrounding a building. They can also be brought into facilities by individuals, shipments and deliveries. Once ants find their way inside, they leave an invisible trail of pheromones for their colony to follow.

To ensure your facility isn’t the next stomping ground for an ant colony, work with your pest management professional to establish an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program.

IPM focuses on preventative, proactive sanitation and facility maintenance measures that mitigate pest activity before it becomes a problem. Your pest management professional will create a plan customized to your facility and the species of ants it’s susceptible to.

Effective management of ant infestations is dependent upon correct ant identification, however there are many preventative steps that can limit your risk of an ant infestation regardless of the nature of your facility or the species of ant.

**Exterior of Facility**

- Inspect the exterior of your building regularly to ensure it is free of trash. Any trash or food should be put away in covered trash cans or recycle bins.
- Trim back bushes, trees and other vegetation at least one-metre from exterior walls to prevent ants from accessing indoors using limbs or bushes that brush up against the building.
- Evaluate vegetation around your facility. Certain plants attract insects such as aphids and mealy bugs, which produce honeydew, a preferred food source for ants.
- Power-wash parking lots and sidewalks surrounding your facility to rid them of the sugars, fats and proteins ants are attracted to.
- Work with your pest management professional to identify and seal any crevices, gaps and cracks on the outside of your building that could serve as entry points for ants.
- Install window screens and weather stripping on doors, and seal holes with cooper mesh and weather-resistant sealant to further prevent ants’ access to inside.

**Inside a Facility**

- Clean-up spills and crumbs immediately as leftovers serve as appealing meals for ants.
- Ask staff to keep any food on the premises in tightly-sealed containers.
- Create a written sanitation program that includes all staff members and educate staff on their role. Even the smallest closet should not be overlooked in sanitation efforts.
- If you or a staff member spots ants inside the building, collect a sample for proper identification and alert your pest management professional immediately.
- Have your pest management professional train staff on ways to identify and prevent pest activity – many providers offer staff training at no extra cost.
- Correct water leakage problems and eliminate unnecessary moisture sources.

Don’t let ants colonize your facility. These small, but fierce insects will gladly make anywhere with adequate food, water and shelter the home for their 500,000 family members. In fact, there are only two places in the world where they cannot survive – the North Pole and the South Pole.

Work closely with your pest management professional to take proactive, preventative action and keep ants marching away from – not into – your building.

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TRI-PEEK polish is a product that many households have learned the benefit of over the years — including that of Her Majesty the Queen. Over the years, Tri-Peek polish had been used on the Royal Yacht Britannia along with a variety of other uses required by Buckingham Palace. In 2005, Tri-Peek was awarded the Royal Warrant as purveyors of metal polish.

Founder Robert Peek is naturally very proud to have been awarded the prestigious Royal Warrant and is delighted his product has the royal seal of approval. The company’s humble beginnings date back to the 1960s when the polish was first sold out of the back of a car by Robert and then later progressed to its first premises in Epping. Working less as an abrasive and more on a chemical reaction, the polish became increasingly in demand thanks to its extraordinary results in the triumphant restoration of anything from sinks to boats or bikes to golf clubs. Tri-Peek’s’s present Saffron Walden base is now the epicentre of the Peek Polish phenomenon which has a glowing reputation across several continents as well as within the royal household.

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The professional carpet cleaning industry – in fact, the carpet industry in general – has had its share of scuffles in the past two or three decades. At one time, a good 25 years ago, some health officials believed that carpets in schools were the cause of an increase in childhood asthma attacks and other respiratory problems.

Soon schools in Sweden and parts of North America were removing carpeting, believing that as soils built up in the carpet, it negatively impacted Indoor Air Quality (IAQ).

However, further research, as many cleaning professionals and carpet cleaning technicians now know, revealed that carpeting actually absorbs soils, including the airborne soils that can trigger asthma and other respiratory problems. Instead of being the culprit, carpet was actually helping to solve the problem.

Then, approximately 15 years ago, there arose a widely-accepted belief that carpeting required more time and attention to maintain when compared to hard-surface flooring. While the results can vary, studies by the Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) once again found just the opposite.

“Carpet… can be 65 per cent less expensive to maintain than hard surface flooring,” the study reported. “While buying and installing hard surface flooring appears less expensive than carpet in the short-run, the true cost of labour, supplies and equipment over an average 22-year lifespan makes carpet a more cost-effective [flooring] choice.”

Now the carpet cleaning industry is grappling with another issue. In 2005, as part of a Green cleaning initiative, New York Public Schools instructed all custo-
dial crews to use only cold water when performing cleaning tasks... including carpet cleaning. As was expected at the time, other school districts “greening” their school maintenance operations adopted the same cold-water restrictions.

However, will this initiative prove to be a mistake? Let’s look a little bit deeper into the facts about hot-water cleaning and you can decide for yourself.

HEAT FUNDAMENTALS

Recently, when a couple were selecting a new automatic dishwasher, one of the features the salesperson discussed was the fact that one model could heat the water to a higher temperature than its nearest competitor. The benefit of this, according to the salesperson, was that heat helps dissolve grease and soil on pots, pans and dishes, and that most of the dishwashing detergents now available are designed to work with hot water – in fact, the hotter the better.

This is certainly not news. Back in the late 1800s, a Swedish physicist and chemist named Svante A. Arrhenius, researching the connection between heat and energy, made an important finding that would impact cleaning forever.

HEAT FUNDAMENTALS

... as part of a Green cleaning initiative, New York Public Schools instructed all custodial crews to use only cold water when performing cleaning tasks... including carpet cleaning.

He discovered that for every 10-degree Celsius (18-degree Fahrenheit) increase in temperature over 48-degrees Celsius (118-degrees Fahrenheit), the amount of energy released is doubled. As it applies to cleaning and, more specifically carpet cleaning, this means that for every 10-degree Celsius over 48-degrees Celsius, the effectiveness of the cleaning process doubles.

Known as the Arrhenius equation, this finding admittedly is not unanimously accepted by scientists. However, as far as we know, none of the doubters claim cleaning in cold water actually improves cleaning.

In fact, using the dishwashing example, we could ask how many non-believers prefer to wash their own dishes in cold water. A simple test cleaning two greasy pots, one with cold water and the other using hot water, will most likely show that the hot water helps melt away the grease, making the cleaning of the pot considerably easier.

The same can apply to carpet cleaning. According to William R. Griffin, a well-known cleaning consultant, higher temperatures “assist in the cleaning process by helping break down oily residues... in carpet fibres. [Further] most detergents are...
formulated to work more efficiently at higher temperatures.”

According to Griffin, other potential benefits of using hot water go beyond just cleaner carpets, as important as this is. He also suggests that carpet fibres tend to regain their original “loft and resilience” when a hot-water carpet extractor is used to clean the carpets. Of course, the ultimate goal of all cleaning, including carpet cleaning, is to help protect human health. But, along with this, restoring a surface – such as carpet – to its “like new” appearance is of great importance to many customers.

**COULD HEAT BE GREEN?**

As mentioned earlier, we know that one of the underlying functions of carpeting is that it collects and holds soils, preventing them from becoming airborne and marring IAQ. However, these contaminants must be removed periodically in order for the carpet to continue providing this service. Along with regular vacuuming and spot cleaning, these soils are best eliminated through deep cleaning or carpet extraction, and most effectively using heat.

“The deep cleaning process using hot-water extraction pulls out deeply-embedded soils and sticky residues that have not been removed with vacuuming or interim cleaning,” Griffin said. “Most experts agree, hot-water extraction does the most complete job of removing all soils.”

If carpets are more effectively cleaned using hot water, helping to protect IAQ, then one of the goals of Green cleaning, protecting human health, has been accomplished. In addition, according to the Arrhenius equation, the cleaning effectiveness of chemicals actually improves as temperatures go up, and that often means less chemical (and water) is necessary to clean the carpets. Whenever less chemical is used in cleaning, cleaning’s impact on the environment is also reduced – another core goal of Green cleaning.

Furthermore, carpets tend to dry faster when heated water is used to extract the carpets. While this effect can vary based on how effective the machine is at moisture recovery, the climate and other conditions, the faster carpets dry, the less likely mould, mildew or bacteria will develop. Again, this is yet another goal of Green carpet cleaning.

**YOU DECIDE**

Earlier I suggested that I would let you decide if using cold water to clean carpets was better for the environment. However, in all fairness, we have not mentioned why some Green cleaning advocates believe cold water is preferable. Very often it comes down to two things:

- **Fumes:** Chemicals tend to release fumes when mixed with hot water, which can potentially be harmful to the user and the environment.
- **Energy:** Hot water extractors tend to use more energy than cold-water systems, potentially making them a less sustainable cleaning method.

As to the fumes, most cleaning professionals and carpet cleaning technicians already mix carpet cleaning chemicals with cold water. This helps eliminate or minimize the amount of fumes released in the mixing process.

It is true that these hot water machines typically use more energy. However, as with so many things, we must always weigh the benefits with the potential drawbacks. If hot water results in less chemical and water being used, and carpets are more effectively cleaned and dry faster, helping to protect the indoor environment, the benefits just may outweigh the drawbacks. You decide.

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**What is Interim Cleaning?**

Interim carpet cleaning typically refers to the use of dry powder, bonnet, shampoo, and/or encapsulation cleaning methods. Interim cleaning methods are designed to be most effective for lighter soiling conditions and part of a commercial carpet maintenance program because the carpet is ready for use very quickly. However, in most cases, the carpet eventually will need “restorative” cleaning, which includes hot-water extraction.
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Why Certify?

A Matter of Health & Safety

By ROGER J. GOBBO, PHH, Past President of the Ontario Health-care Housekeepers Association

Certification as a Standard for Employment

Certification is defined as a person competently meeting the criteria (body of knowledge, and/or experience) or renewal requirements – such as continuing education, work experience and/or re-testing in order to remain certified, as set forth by an organization. In this article, “organization” refers to a type of certification that is profession-wide. Certification is a designation used to apply standards, increase the level of competency, protect patients/residents, staff and the public.

The health-care field requires that all people that provide direct care to patients and residents must be certified or licensed. Certification and licensing are provided by governing bodies and/or professional associations. We usually associate these certifications and/or licenses with doctors, nurses, medical lab technologists, respiralogists, dieticians, etc.

We don’t usually associate ‘certification’ requirements with leaders directing housekeeping services in healthcare facilities. However, these direct service professionals provide the environment in which patients are expected to recuperate in safely, and residents to live in comfortably and safely.

Some of these services and responsibilities include the following:

• Directing a multitude of workers in close proximity to patients/residents in healthcare facilities;
• Formatting policies and procedures directing staff in the safe use of chemicals and equipment within a health-care facility;
• Providing services that deliver the cleaning standards required to ensure a clean, safe and healthful environment;
• Formatting policies and procedures, with other health-care professionals, on working safely in rooms where patients/residents have been isolated because of acquired various infectious diseases such as MRSA, VRE, C. difficile, tuberculosis, etc.;
• Develop fair and equitable workloads through recognized workload measurement systems using health-care industry time standards, and/or developing time standards for tasks not included or not yet developed in published time standards;
• Ensure that staff work in an environment that complies with all human rights, labour, safety and waste legislation;
• Ensure that the workplace practices and policies are in compliance with accreditation standards;
• Oversee a department that is responsible for every square metre of a health-care facility, and more importantly, a department that must also interact with almost every other department in the facility;
• Communication, communication and more communication.

Would you hire anyone to manage or supervise in a housekeeping department without the above skills or knowledge?

How could you be assured that the perspective individuals, competing for the position of overseeing a health-care housekeeping department, would have the abovementioned skill-set?

You could certainly examine their resumes, but wouldn’t certification from a recognized body provide some assurances that individuals have attained some required knowledge and skills to perform as overseers of a housekeeping department?

The healthcare field has rapidly changed from single discipline professionals being directed by the manager/director to the integration of multiple fields being directed by a ‘multi-tasked’ manager/director. For example, it is not uncommon for the support service departments, such as housekeeping, dietary and physical plant, to be managed/directed by a person educated and trained in the food service field.

It is also not uncommon for these same support service departments to be supervised by people certified in food services or housekeeping.

This raises the question: Should these same managers/directors or supervisors be certified/licensed in all the disciplines that they oversee?

One could argue that those who do not have direct supervision for tasks carried out in the patient/resident areas may not need certification since the corporations rely on the managerial skills of these managers/directors to carry out the mission, purpose and vision of the corporation to service the patients/residents. This can be compared to a plumbing company whose owner may not be a licensed plumber, but the staff performing the tasks are.

In health-care facilities, there are a multitude of federal and provincial legislations that govern the care and safety of patients and residents. It is reasonable to require, through federal or provincial legislation, the certification/licensing of all those directing housekeeping tasks carried out in health-care facilities.

Recognition

Demonstrated successful experience in the health-care housekeeping field is often fraught with the pitfall of making and learning from mistakes, and implementing remediation upon successive scenarios.

Supplementing experience with certification demonstrates a determination to achieve higher levels of competency within your chosen profession.

We all want to be recognized for our competency and, certainly, when trying to establish our credentials for new perspective employers or clients, having some form of certification in a specific field goes a long way towards that endeavour.

The process of having certifications recognized by employers and clients is not only demonstrated through the successful engagement of people with certifications, but also through the promotion of certifications by recognized associations and their members.

Does Certification Enhance My Chances of Successful Employment?

Certification may enhance your chances of gaining employment, but combined with your education and especially a successful work experience record is even more enhancing.

Certification Bodies

There are three association bodies in

Continued On Page 30
NEW INNOVATION REVOLUTIONIZES HAND HYGIENE WITHOUT THE USE OF CHEMICALS

American Dryer recently unveiled a new product that incorporates cold plasma, a natural occurring phenomenon, into its market-leading hand dryers.

The company worked to perfect its new, patent-pending Cold Plasma Clean™ (CPC) technology for several years, and with its release, cold plasma-enabled, warm-air dryers will advance cleanliness in restrooms and markets such as healthcare, schools and food processing.

“Cold Plasma Clean technology was developed by our engineering team to create the most hygienic hand drying method possible,” said American Dryer Vice President of Sales and Technology Michael Robert. “CPC kills germs on and around your hands naturally, without chemicals, HEPA filters, the solution used by some manufacturers, may trap microbes, but can’t eliminate them, nor do the filters clean the air surrounding the hands the way CPC does.”

HEPA filtration simply traps germs inside the dryer, but by incorporating warm-air CPC, the company’s latest models are said to actually kill germs on the surfaces of hands and in the surrounding air.

“CPC creates a purifying bubble of air, which surrounds the hands without the creation of harmful ozone,” said American Dryer President, Daniel Rabahy. “This is a true evolution in hand dryer technology because of its comprehensive hygiene benefits.”

Cold plasma, or bipolar ionization, is nature’s way of cleaning the air and killing germs. High levels of ionization are found throughout nature. The Cold Plasma Generator, available only inside select American Dryer eXtremeAir® models, uses steady-state positive and negative discharge points to split water molecules in the air into oppositely charged hydrogen and oxygen ions. These ions then break down gases to harmless compounds commonly found in the atmosphere.

CPC technology is also proven to kill harmful and microscopic pathogens including E-Coli, C. difficile, Staph, MRSA and TB.

For more information, contact American Dryer at www.americandryer.com or call (413) 567-8700.

KAIVAC GATING GUN FLOORCARE TOOL IS A BLAST

KaiVac’s Gatling Gun™ grouter tool blasts and removes ground-in dirt from grout lines. The system features a high-speed, rotary nozzle that is said to deliver the power of a truck mount on a portable 500 psi KaiVac No-Touch Cleaning system.

High-pressure water from the KaiVac rotates the rapid-fire nozzle to deep clean tile floors and loosen built-up and embedded soils, which are simultaneously vacuumed up.

The tool is said to blast, extract and clean floors, leaving them “looking better than new.”

For more information, contact KaiVac at www.kaivac.com or call (513) 887-4600.

ESD (STATIC) SAFE MICRO ATTACHMENT CLEANING KIT

Atrix International Inc. is pleased to introduce a new micro attachment cleaning kit that is said to be ESD (static) safe. The new, four-piece cleaning kit includes: Tapered hose adapter, “Flex-Neck” extension wand, micro dusting brush and micro crevice tool.

For more information, contact Atrix International Inc. at (952) 894-6154 or visit the company’s web site at www.atrix.com.

NEW SUSTAINABLE CARPET CLEANING RELEASED

The Cascade 20 system from CFR (Continuous Flow Recycling) uses recycling technology to remove contaminants and soils from carpets while making the user’s job faster and easier.

Consuming significantly less water than traditional machines, the Cascade 20 is said to be an effective, full-service carpet extractor.

For hard-to-reach areas, the extractor’s quality roller wands ensure carpets are deep-cleaned in a much more sustainable fashion.

AZTEC LAUNCHES NEW WEB SITE AND LOGO

Aztec has launched a newly-designed website in addition to a more representative company logo.

“Out with the old and in with the new,” said Aztec Vice President, Steven Spengler. “Our newly-designed ‘user-friendly website’, logo and equipment are all evidence that Aztec is leading the way in exceeding the demands in the jan-san and polished concrete industries. We are aggressively doing whatever it takes in all areas of our company to perform well above the expectations of distributors, contractors, with fresh ideas and outstanding high performance products.”

For more information, contact Aztec at www.aztecproducts.com.

DIVERSEY CARE ADDS OXIVIR® LARGE WIPES TO LEADING DISINFECTANT LINE

Sealed Air’s Diversey Care division introduced the new large Oxivir Tb Wipe to its leading Oxivir disinfectant line for the North American market.

The new wipe is said to be gentle for staff, patients and surfaces, and enables employees to clean and disinfect larger areas with fewer wipes. The hydrogen-peroxide-based disinfectant, powered by AHP® technology is said to disinf ectant against the most common healthcare-associated pathogens in only 60 seconds.

The wipe’s 11- by 12-inch size is ideal for larger area cleaning and disinfection in operating rooms, emergency departments and patient rooms. Like all members of the Oxivir disinfectant family, it is said to provide excellent cleaning results and fast disinfection without irritating skin and eyes.

“Oxivir is the responsible choice when considering patient and staff comfort, surface compatibility and the environment,” said Carolyn Cooke, vice president, Diversey Care Healthcare. “The new, larger wipe supports our health-care customers’ need for speed and efficiency by delivering broad efficacy, and one-minute cleaning and disinfection without compromising

Continued On Page 30
BETCO LAUNCHES QUAT-STAT™ BROAD SPECTRUM DISINFECTANT

Quat-Stat®, a unique blend of two quaternary surfactants, is a broad spectrum disinfectant, cleaner, detergent, virucide, deodorizer and mildewstat with efficacy against a wide range of bacteria.

A proven germicide to aid in the fight against cross-contamination, Quat-Stat is said to be effective against Hepatitis B, HIV-1, MRSA, VRE and other micro-organisms.

Quat-Stat meets OSHA specifications for compliance with the Bloodborne Pathogen Standard for decontamination of hard non-porous environmental work surfaces while leaving a fresh scent that says ‘Clean!’

For more information, contact Betco Corporation at www.betco.com or call (888) GO-BETCO.

OXYGEN-GENERATED ACTIVE ODOR CONTROL WITH CONTINUOUS FRAGRANCE

Zep Inc., a consumable chemical packaged goods company that manufactures a wide variety of high-performance maintenance and cleaning chemicals, announced that its Zep Distribution unit will launch O2™ by TimeMist®, the next generation of active air care. TimeMist is one of the industry’s leading air and odor care lines.

O2 by TimeMist utilizes patented oxygen generating technology to deliver continuous, consistent, ambient fragrance for 60 days, guaranteed.

“This technology is similar to what is used in medical applications where providing consistent dosing quantities over time is critical to quality,” said Steve Nichols, group president of Zep Inc. “Because O2 by TimeMist consistently and continuously dispenses fragrance, it is an excellent alternative to more traditional technologies such as gels, wicked products and aerosol systems.”

The system is said to offer several key features beyond today’s standards, such as sleek dispenser design and several colour options; 60-day refill cartridge (CARB, EU and REACH compliant); low VOC refill content; and available in eight pure oil fragrances ranging from herbal to citrusy to floral. The refills provide odor-neutralizing agents that eliminate malodours and leave a fresh scent in the air.

The dispenser has a two-sided oxygen generator that takes ambient air from one side and transforms it to pure oxygen on the other side. The resulting oxygen is channeled into the refill where it consistently squeezes pure fragrance oil out onto its unique cellular diffuser. The high quality fragrance is then carried throughout the room by natural airflow for a full 60 days. The dispenser also has an indicator to notify users when the refill is exhausted and when the batteries must be replaced. The innovative dispenser is said to beat industry standards with a battery life of up to two years.

The system is ideal for a variety of spaces in all environmental conditions within a range of commercial building types.

For more information, contact Zep Distribution at www.zepdistribution.com.

NACECARE BATTERY-POWERED BACKPACK AND CANISTER VACUUMS

NaceCare battery-powered backpack and canister vacuums are said to run for 45 minutes on inter-changeable lithium ion batteries that charge in two-and-one-half-hours. And, at 16 pounds, the RBV 130 backpack is light enough for any user.

With productivity increases of 30- to 50-per cent and noise levels of 45 decibels, the vacuums are said to be ideal for any type of cleaning task.

For more information, contact NaceCare at (800) 387-3210 or visit the company’s web site at www.nacecare.com.

A NEW TOOL FOR BETTER HAND HYGIENE – ESSENTIAL DURING H1N1 RESURGENCE

This year’s cold and flu season is bringing new levels of concern with H1N1 staging a comeback in North America. Health experts like the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) are reminding the population about the importance of proper hand-washing and drying with paper towels or a clean towel, to avoid the transmission of bacteria and viruses. Cascades Tissue Group is offering a powerful tool which is said to aid in hand hygiene: Cascades® Antibacterial paper towel.

“More attention is usually placed on proper hand-washing with people less informed about the also important issue of hand-drying,” said Suzanne Blanchet, president and CEO of Cascades Tissue Group, citing a recent Mayo Clinic Study reminding that ‘paper towels reduced the number of all types of bacteria on the hands’.

Moreover, many studies show that in terms of hand hygiene, paper towels are more effective than hot air dryers which increase bacteria on hands.

Cascades also developed a new tool to provide a simple and effective way to further reduce bacterial contamination and transmission. Specifically designed to compensate for people’s poor hand hygiene habits, Cascades Antibacterial paper towel is said to reduce the quantity of residual bacteria on hands, while offering an antibacterial defense lasting two hours.

Furthermore, research has shown that Benzalkonium Chloride, the active antibacterial ingredient in the towel, is effective against respiratory viruses like the flu. Testified favorably by Health Canada and accepted by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), this towel is said to fit anywhere and does not require additional steps or change in people’s habits, as it is used like regular towels.

For more information, contact Cascades Tissue Group at (800) 361-4070 or visit www.ath.cascades.com.

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ECO-LOGIXX JOINS THE DISSAN GROUP

The Dissan Group, one of the largest groups of distributors of sanitary and janitorial products in Canada, has announced the acquisition of the sanitation product division of Eco-Logixx (formerly COLAC).

“The Dissan Group is continuing to expand, and this acquisition reinforces its position as the number one player in the Canadian janitorial and sanitation industry,” said Mario Lamarche, president and CEO of The Dissan Group. “This is a winning partnership for everyone directly implicated in our own strategy.”

With nearly 25 years of experience in the sale of sanitary and cleaning products, Eco-Logixx will be an integral part of The Dissan Group, which specializes in the distribution of professional hygiene products, services and equipment. The merger is excellent news for members of the group and for clients, suppliers and employees of both companies.

The transaction will allow Eco-Logixx to substantially increase its purchasing power and to broaden its range of services and current mix of products, especially specialized equipment, while maintaining and improving the quality of its customer service.

“We are very happy to join The Dissan Group,” said Gilles Tremblay, CEO of Eco-Logixx. “This merger gives us the means to provide our present and future clients with even better service. It’s like having the personalized, courteous service of a specialized shop, while offering the diversity of prices and products offered by an entire shopping centre.”

As of Feb. 24, 2014, all operations will be brought together at The Dissan Group’s Anjou headquarters. All Eco-Logixx representatives will retain their positions as well as their current contact information (telephone and e-mail).

Produits Sanitaires Eco-Logixx 2014 has also adopted a new visual brand modelled after The Dissan Group’s logo and colours.

UNGERS CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN 2014

Half a century of dedication, innovation and understanding the needs of the professional cleaning sector will be marked this year, as Unger celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2014.

When Henry Unger seized the opportunity to improve the working lives of German window cleaners back in 1964, by introducing them to the latest innovative products from the United States, he could not have guessed he was creating a global cleaning revolution. From humble beginnings – he launched the business from his grandmother’s attic in Hamburg – the company now spans the globe. The family values that inspired his vision remain strong today, and continue through his three sons, who still guide Unger, reaffirming their father’s core values of quality, trust and customer service.

Thus far, Unger’s 50 years have been filled with major milestones. The S Squeegee was the company’s first breakthrough product in 1996 – made from stainless steel, not bronze, and featuring a quick release mechanism to make changing the rubber strips easy and speeding up the cleaning process.

Fast forward to the Ergotec® Ninja, a quantum leap in squeegee design, form and usability; followed by the development of the nLite HiFlo™ PureWater cleaning system for windows and facades, and it’s easy to see that Unger has never stood still in its quest to make window cleaning safer, swifter and even more successful in terms of results and profitability.

Plans for the half centenary celebrations include the following:
• Special limited edition products made available to valued customers to help them commemorate this milestone with Unger;
• Celebratory events across the world, where customers and distributors will join with Unger to mark the occasion;
• Product promotions to thank and reward Unger’s customers for their continued loyalty.

PROTEAM APPOINTS NEW SEGMENT MANAGER

ProTeam®, creator of the original and Next Generation backpack vacuums, is pleased to announce the addition of Ryan Rittenbury as Segment manager for the Foodservice and Hospitality markets.

Rittenbury brings over four years of experience in the jan san industry. As Regional Sales manager for another company, Rittenbury managed five independent rep groups and supported distributor partners in 16 states. He excelled at developing region-specific programs to incentivize the growth of distributors. A graduate of Auburn University, Rittenbury graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and minor in Marketing.

As Segment manager, Rittenbury will be responsible for identifying and selling key end-user accounts, specifically restaurant, hotel and grocery chains. He will also develop new distribution partners and support existing partners.

“ProTeam has become a market force by building a core team of intelligent, capable professionals,” said ProTeam president and CEO Matt Wood. “We look forward to seeing his contributions take shape.”

MCL WELCOMES BRIAN WALSH AS VICE PRESIDENT OF SALES

MCL is pleased to welcome Brian Walsh to lead its growth and development efforts as a valuable partner in sustainability.

Walsh will lead the company’s team of sustainability professionals providing value-added solutions to clients throughout Canada. He will assist and support each client to build lasting partnerships and be a tremendous asset to all.

Walsh brings 22 years of sales and organizational leadership, and has an outstanding history and knowledge when it comes to facility maintenance, safety and hygiene.

Visit us on the Internet at www.sanitationcanada.com
AVMOR CELEBRATES 65 YEARS OF SUCCESS

Avmor is celebrating its 65th anniversary in 2014.

The company was founded in 1948 by Avrum Morrow and Henry Chinks, on Ste-Hélène Street in Old Montreal. Avmor is one of Canada’s leading manufacturers of professional cleaning solutions aimed at the facility maintenance and foodservice markets.

In 1948, Avmor launched its first innovation, a washroom deodorizer known as the Odorite. In 1999, Avmor built a new facility in Laval that is now ISO 14001-2004, ISO 9001-2008, and has a Health Canada Establishment License.

Avmor offers a full range of sanitation solutions including over 50 UL EcoLogo certified products, a complete line of cleaners/degreasers, floor care, washroom care, foodservice care, hand care and disinfectants.

The company continues to introduce and develop new technologies to complement its current product offering and to increase its efficiency while safeguarding the health and safety of its workers, customers and the environment.

For 65 years, Avmor has remained at the industry forefront, defining product performance standards and striving for the safest and most cost-effective cleaning systems for professional use.

OHHA PRESENTS "PACK YOUR BACKPACK – THE TRILOGY" CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW – JUNE 3 TO 5, 2014

The Ontario Healthcare Housekeepers’ Association Inc. (OHHA), will be holding its third annual conference and trade show on Jun. 3 to 5, 2014 at the Kempenfelt Conference Centre, in Innisfil, ON.

As an industry expert providing services and products to hospitals and long-term care facilities in Ontario, OHHA is pleased and excited to extend an invitation to industry members to participate in this event.

The conference is open to all of the association’s valued partners. Join OHHA for a variety of social/networking opportunities, and stay with the group on-site at the Kempenfelt Conference Centre (KCC). The Holiday Inn in Barrie is the overflow accommodation venue. On-site accommodations are on a first-come-first-served basis, so register soon to avoid disappointment.

New this year is the Best Ball golf tournament which will be held on Tues. Jun. 3 at noon at the Allandale Golf Course.

In addition to the regular sessions, there will also be an opportunity for exhibitors to have 10 minutes of fame with all of the delegates in the main lecture room. This event is a take-off of America’s Got Talent, and will be called “Exhibitors Got Talent.” Please contact OHHA conference organizers if you are interested in participating. There are only 10 slots available.

The cost to exhibit is $500 for Affiliate members, and $600 for non-members. Set-up for the trade show will be Tues. Jun. 3 from 2 to 5 p.m. Show hours are Tues. Jun. 3 from 6 to 9 p.m. (optional); Wed. Jun. 4 from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Thurs. Jun. 5 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Booth exhibitor displays can be taken down after 1 p.m. on Thursday.

OHHA is also looking for sponsors to offset the cost of speakers, meals, delegate material and social activities. The deadline for registration and sponsorship selection is Apr. 3, 2014.

For more information or to register, please visit the OHHA web site at www.ohha.org/backpack.

Continued On Page 28
LOCAL PLANET CLEAN AFFILIATE TRAINERS CERTIFIED FOR WESTERN CANADA

PlanetClean® is pleased to announce that 11 regional Planet Clean Affiliate Trainers (PCAT) have been successfully certified to train, multi-unit accounts on Best In Clean Standards.

After an intensive, three-day program consisting of product knowledge, course content development and “train the trainer” skills, each participant completed a written theory and industry standards knowledge exam, and executed a final presentation, which was evaluated on their communication, training and classroom dynamics skills.

“I found that the course helped improve my presentation skills and gave me some more industry knowledge,” said certified PCAT Trainer and Account Executive Jan Hannaford. “As for my customers both present and future, it gives PlanetClean another tool to show them what makes us the best in our industry.”

Facilitated by Sally Claire, PlanetClean Chief Operating Officer, and Randy May, Corporate trainer, this program has certified the PCAT trainers to teach on-site training for Green cleaning, Washroom Essentials, Kitchen 101, Infection Control and WHMIS certification.

“We are proud of our new PCAT trainers and see tremendous value in having specialists in the local market to support our multi-unit accounts in training their Best in Clean standards across their Western Canadian hotel, retail, hospitality and senior living locations,” said Claire.

VIROX LAUNCHES ITS “INSIGHTS BLOG”

The Virox-Insights-Blog is an information resource for everything related to Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide® (AHP) and Accel products. The blog is said to provide readers with clear, meaningful information, product trends and updates as well as the “Virox Insight” on hot topics in infection prevention pertaining to Accel product usage, and surface and instrument disinfection.

Join the conversation at http://blog.virox.com/blog.

OBITUARY – GEORGE SALLAWAY

It is with great sadness that I report the passing at age 86 of George Sallaway, husband, father, grandfather, great-father and industry professional.

George was the first sales representative Servicorp ever hired, back in 1991. For Servicorp, it was a new experience and a learning process. But for Sallaway, who had previously worked in the sanitation supply industry, it was another chapter in a long career. It would ultimately be the final 20-year-long phase in his professional life.

There are far too many attributes of Sallaway to share, and although it was by no means his most significant one, let me say that when George entered a room, he had what they call in the movie business “presence.” He was unquestionably the best dressed in any crowd, up to a couple of weeks before his death when we last had lunch.

George had class. It was evident in the way he carried himself, but more importantly in the manner in which he interacted with others. I suppose the most compelling argument for his good character was the way in which others treated him. The night before he passed, his wife Norma shared with me that she and George had appreciated the respect with which George was always treated at work. I assured her that it was nothing less than he deserved. It was, in fact, merely a reflection of the respect he showed everyone he came into contact with.

George had a database of jokes unparalleled in any industry. He could, without hesitation, produce a hysterical story on any subject, at any time. However, it was not solely his vast catalogue humour which was remarkable as much as was his delivery. I have no doubt that he could have succeeded very well in the entertainment business.
The Elephant Foot System is Here!

Insert allows for use of more tools, such as yacht mops, collapsible flat mops and wall washing mops that the wringer can accommodate.

Manufactured of high grade polyethylene plastic.

Accepts downpress, sidypress and roller wringer.

Clip for holding mop handles prevents them from falling.

Flat mopping roller wringer fits bucket.

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Canada and the United States that offer formal certification in the health-care housekeeping field to their members:

- **Ontario Health-care Housekeepers’ Association (OHHA)** – www.ohha.org:
  - administrates a certification for those in the healthcare housekeeping field only.
  - designation: Professional Healthcare Housekeeper (PHH).

- **Association for the Health-care Environment (AHE)** – www.ahe.org:
  - administrates a certification for those in the health-care housekeeping field only.
  - designation: Certified Healthcare Environmental Services Professional (CHESP)

- **International Executive Housekeepers Associations (IEHA)** – www.ieha.org:
  - administrates a certification for those in any housekeeping field.
  - designation: Certified Executive Housekeeper (C.E.H.) and Registered Executive Housekeeper (R.E.H.).

What organization should I join and apply for certification?

There are three factors that may determine your decision. These include the following:

1. Are you employed or seeking employment in the health-care field, or are you in other housekeeping fields? Gaining certification in any of the above associations will enhance your résumé, and show prospective employers your dedication in furthering your knowledge in the housekeeping field.

2. All of the above organizations require pre-requisite qualifications for certification in education and work experience. OHHA also requires completion of its professional development courses. CSSA, AHE and IEHA also require successful completion of exams.

3. None of the above organizations have reciprocating certification agreements – that means that certification in one organization does not automatically guarantee certification in another organization. That means you must apply separately to each organization for certification and you must be a member of that organization.

A short note of advice I give to anyone who’ll listen when I speak about certification:

“Certification is equal in proficiency to any other thing in life, you are what you do with your head and your heart.”

[For more information, contact Diversey Care at www.diversey.com]
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