Sanitation Canada

New Floorcare Guidelines Designed for Safety

Bridgepoint Active Healthcare

Building a Hospital to Improve Infection Prevention & Control (IPAC) Practices

Handwashing vs. Hand Sanitizer in the fight against norovirus

MARCH / APRIL 2014
The Vileda Professional design

A smart balanced product architecture

About us
Vileda Professional offers cleaning solutions and innovative systems for professional users. With over 30 years in the business we know what needs professional users in different environments are looking for, and we offer solutions that help you clean faster, more effective and to lower total costs.

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2) We do extensive networking to adjacent and far-off knowledge areas, to gain
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customers in terms of excellent products and solutions, more and more on basic understanding of dirt but input for new and revolutionary cleaning ideas. cleaning work.

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The Vileda Professional philosophy has always been to work above the 'statuesque', and move forward with intelligent product & system designs. Everything from the smallest fabric to the future cleaning visions - should match this identity. The outcome is clear forms with smooth transitions, smartly balanced on ergonomic, aesthetic and functional criteria. For the user, this means attractive products that increase efficiencies and have top in class ergonomics.
FOCUS ON FLOORCARE

New Floorcare Guidelines Designed for Safety.

It appears that some regulatory bodies in North America are considering taking significant action in hopes of reducing the number of slip-and-fall accidents that occur annually. In the United States, for example, the National Safety Council estimates that nearly nine million people end up in emergency rooms each year due to falls.

HAND HYGIENE

Hand washing versus Hand sanitizer in the fight against Norovirus. What do bedbugs and Norovirus have in common? Well, recent research has found that, like Norovirus, it may take only from one to 10 bugs to cause a full-blown infestation.

PEST CONTROL

Start Fresh: A Guide to Spring Cleaning. A few calendar pages into 2014, and it’s already time to fling open the windows, and spruce up for spring and summer. A deep clean and examination does more than just shoo away the cobwebs. Pests coming out of winter hibernation are house hunting, and any facility that offers food, water and shelter is at risk.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Readers submit commentary on articles published in Sanitation Canada.

IN THE FIELD

Building a Hospital to Improve Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Practices. Infection prevention and control (IPAC) is one of the largest challenges that ES managers face every day. The opening of a brand new hospital offered us the opportunity to develop strategies to engage our environmental services team as active participants in IPAC practices.

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Dear Editor,

I enjoyed Roger Gobbo’s recent article, “Why Certify?” on the importance of certification in the healthcare housekeeping market, and agree that certification is a powerful tool to increase professionalism and demonstrate a true commitment to excellence on behalf of the cleaning service professional. That said, it is important to note that it is equally valuable for an organization as a whole to invest in standardization and certification. By achieving certification, a healthcare organization can validate its quality, customer-focus and dedication to providing a clean, green and healthy indoor environment for patients, staff and facility guests.

It is for that reason, ISSA – The Worldwide Cleaning Industry Association – is so excited about the success of its Cleaning Industry Management Standard (CIMS) and CIMS-Green Building program. By setting forth the key characteristics of a successful cleaning service organization, CIMS and CIMS-GB provides a benchmarking, validation and differentiation tool. Cleaning service providers can achieve certification to position themselves as a true leader, while healthcare facility management professionals can use certification in the contractor selection process to help “take the guesswork out of the equation.” In fact, the U.S. Army MEDICAL COMMAND and U.S. Air Force Hospital Aseptic Management Services (HAMS) now require certification to be eligible to be awarded a cleaning service contract for all hospitals and health care facilities.

Simply stated, certification truly offers great benefits to both healthcare cleaning professionals, the organizations they represent, and, most importantly, the patients they serve.

Dan Wagner, Director of Facility Service Programs, ISSA

Dear Editor,

With regards to the article “Why Certify?” written by Roger Gobbo in the January/February 2014 issue of Sanitation Canada, the Canadian Association of Environmental Management (CAEM) would like to acknowledge CleanLearning as a nationally-recognized training and certification program for the cleaning industry. The program was developed by Good Choice Cleaning Services Inc., who worked directly with industry experts to create 12 training modules for the program.

Each module covers the most innovative and updated information for housekeeping today. Many procedures were based on best practice cleaning guidelines and standards available in Canada at the time of production.

The training and certification program establishes one standard of clean for the cleaning industry and can effectively be used for school boards, hotels, healthcare or other cleaning.

CleanLearning’s vision is to improve the quality of cleaning through certification.

The Board of Directors,
Canadian Association of Environmental Management.

EDITOR’S NOTE:
Sanitation Canada does not endorse any one certification program. It is recommended that industry professionals take the time to research the certification programs available to them and make a decision based on their own specific needs.

Letters to the Editor
THE BURST PIPE, 
FOOD FIGHT, 
STEPPED-IN-MUD, 
FLASH FLOOD, 
NOTHING COMPARES 
TO BEING PREPARED 

WET/DRY VAC
What do bedbugs and Norovirus have in common? Well, recent research has found that, like Norovirus, it may take only from one to 10 bugs to cause a full-blown infestation. It is that low infectious dose that also makes Norovirus such a difficult bug to stop in its tracks, and has brought us recent headlines such as “700 sick on one cruise ship alone.”

Unlike many viruses that need to gang up on a cell by way of a virus cloud, this extremely low infectious dose is paired with how much virus is shed in vomit or diarrhea. It is the perfect infectious storm able to overcome common, everyday hand hygiene measures with ease, and cause some 20 million cases of Norovirus in the United States annually, as well as approximately 600 to 800 deaths.

Consider this, virus particle counts of up to 10 billion per gram of feces have been detected and it has been reported that the same levels can be shed in vomitus during projectile vomiting. Based on the quantity of fecal material and vomitus shed by an infected person, it is easy to see that there is enough virus shed from one person if spread super-efficiently, to infect practically everyone on the planet. Some gastrointestinal infections play nice by only being transmitted by hand contact but with Norovirus, aerosol transmission is all too common with reports of up to 10 million particles aerosolized in a single, forceful “up-chuck” shot.

Not only are public restroom facilities turned into hot spots worthy of avoidance but during these events, ventilation systems become contaminated as well. We have some vivid records of Norovirus attacks on food workers where, in a six-hour period, a cake decorator had five episodes of diarrhea and two of vomiting. This is not uncommon. Needless to say, the cakes she decorated were highly infectious.

Hand Washing vs. Hand Sanitizer in the Fight Against Norovirus

The following article is posted on the Deb Group Hand Hygiene, Infection Prevention and Food Safety Blog – http://info.debgroup.com/blog.
YOUR SINGLE SOURCE PROVIDER FOR BETTER HAND HYGIENE

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Thousands of times a day, a simple touch can spread germs within facilities... and ultimately between co-workers, patrons and visitors. When germs spread, illness can take a toll on performance due to absenteeism and lost productivity.

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that stays at least one step ahead of our protective immune system.

These viruses are a model of economy. Once a single stranded RNA virus gets into a cell, it is primed for action and able to take over the cellular machinery, set-up “replication complexes” and churn-out hundreds of copies of itself.

Without fore-warning these cruise ships were sitting ducks for a situation that reached a tipping point in terms of shipboard health. In the weeks to come, you can be sure that the cruise ship industry will arm itself to the teeth with everything needed to minimize these outbreaks, and eventually turn the corner and get ahead of the curve.

All of this sets the stage for the science around the best methods to remove or kill Norovirus on hands.

Soils, as described above, have a major effect in reducing efficacy of any hand hygiene intervention and thus are the first focus of public health authorities. Hand washing and effective surface disinfection should be the primary response to Norovirus exposure. Because of the real concern for the presence of physical soil whenever Norovirus is encountered, the Centres for Disease Control (CDC) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have been opposed to allowing antiviral claims on hand sanitizer products despite the accumulating data which shows some level of effectiveness once soil has been eliminated.

For removal of Norovirus (previously termed Norwalk virus or the small-round-structured-viruses - SRSV) friction seems to play more of a role than surfactant activity.

We need the surfactants in hand soap to get rid of the soil or, in technical terms, “filth.” There are half-a-dozen scientific articles that show friction during the rinsing phase can be particularly effective against similar small viruses, including human Norovirus surrogates.

The most effective hand sanitizers have been shown to repeatedly do a good job at reducing Norovirus counts delivering up to two log reduction on hands. Hand sanitizer has been credited as an effective tool in outbreak control, but it cannot be relied upon as the primary means of preventing infection.

This was seen in studies published in the last few years which looked at infection rates in long-term care facilities. The studies showed a heavy reliance on hand sanitizers combined with operation under conditions dependent on part-time and/or low staff-to-patient ratios, contributed to outbreaks.

Systematic reviews of interventions also do not identify silver bullets that stop outbreaks in their tracks, but instead show that it is a labour-intensive effort.

When all is said and done, frequency that the intervention is carried out is the most commonly identified characteristic of any program that is working.

A study by Greig and Lee, published in 2012, showed that in healthcare facilities restricting the movements of patients and staff, enhanced environmental cleaning and hand hygiene was key. Shared toilet facilities can literally be a killer, not just for Norovirus but for C. difficile as well – another microbial agent even more refractory to hand sanitizer treatment.

The medical, humanitarian and economic impact of Norovirus and other virus diseases cannot be underestimated. If there is one constant in the fog of war against disease, it is frequency. With Norovirus in the cruise ship industry, it will be no different. Like the cruise ship casino, fighting Norovirus is a numbers game and the deck is stacked in favor of the virus’s superior numbers, therefore frequency rules.

There will be constant roving gangs of sanitation workers, copious amounts of hand sanitizer and rapid response of cleaning crews that will smother human soils with surface disinfectant.

With aggressive hand washing and use of strong disinfectants, it is easy to damage skin and frequency cannot be sustained without appropriate glove use. Hand sanitizers will provide some kill and, at the same time re-nourish the skin with moisturizers and humectants.

Keep safe my friends, wash hands often and use sanitizer for skin protection and back-up to good old-fashion hand washing.

Barry Michaels has over 40 years experience in the field of infectious disease investigation, control and prevention. His research work has involved a wide variety of viral, bacterial and fungal pathogens focused on antimicrobial intervention strategies. Previously having worked as staff microbiologist for Georgia-Pacific Corp. for over 14 years, he is now founder and director of B. Michaels Group Inc., a consultant group active in areas of product safety, product development, regulatory affairs and microbiology related to personal hygiene, surface sanitation and glove use in food, healthcare and various other occupational fields. Considered the “Guru of Hand Washing” he has been widely cited in the popular press, as well as published or participated in hundreds articles, abstracts, book chapters, presentations and forums on the subjects of skin care and infection control. When not working he can be found sailing, fishing or kayaking. Barry can be contacted at barrymichaels@ mindspring.com.
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Pictured (from left to right):
Irene Bountaki, Fernando Tongco, Mary Bramley,
Joselita Bermudo (kneeling), Leonard Dabin

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A few calendar pages into 2014, and it’s already time to fling open the windows and spruce up for spring and summer. A deep clean and examination does more than just shoo away the cobwebs. Pests coming out of winter hibernation are house hunting, and any facility that offers food, water and shelter is at risk. Keep pest management in mind when you clean this spring to help protect your facility against infestations.

Be on the lookout for hidden threats that could cause big problems down the road. For example, mould not only indicates the presence of water, but can cause allergic reactions, like watery eyes, runny nose, trouble breathing and even asthma attacks. It also provides food for fungus feeding insects such as Plaster and Fungus beetles.

Another thing to check for is openings in your facility that will provide entry points for crawling insects, birds and rodents. A rodents’ bodily structure allows it to squeeze through spaces that appear to be much too small for them. Holes as small as half-a-centimeter can be a welcome mat for rats and mice that can wiggle in, contaminate food and transmit harmful diseases.

The challenging work in researching potential pest threats has been done for you: use the checklist below to guide your spring cleaning and eliminate many of the pest attractants in your facility. Then, set up a walk-through with your pest management provider to be pest-proofed before the summer months.

- **C** – Clear clutter where pests might hide out. They want what you’ve got – food, water and shelter. Eliminate shelter points, such as cardboard boxes. Cockroaches especially enjoy hanging out in the cardboard because they can feed off the glue that holds the boxes together.

- **L** – Limit the leftovers. Pests only need a small amount of food to survive, so clean food preparation and kitchen areas thoroughly. Keep food and pantry items in tightly-sealed cont-
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tainers to reduce odors that attract pests, and don’t leave food out overnight. Using environmentally friendly cleaners made with naturally occurring bacteria and enzymes discourages pests by eliminating the grease and grime they feed on and breed in – especially in drains.

- E – Eliminate crumbs and water. Wipe down surfaces and mop floors in areas you don’t typically get to each week, making sure to leave no areas of standing water. Repair leaks and water problems as small amounts of moisture can sustain pests for long periods of time. Use extra caution when cleaning mould – use detergent and water, and wear a face mask, long sleeves, pants and gloves.

- A – Assess the exterior of your facility for potential pest entry points. Look for cracks around sliding doors, window screens and around pipes entering the building. Seal any openings with weather-resistant sealant. Clean gutters, point downspouts away from the facility, and work with your landscaper to trim branches, plants and bushes away from the building.

- N – Nix trash and remove garbage. Pests don’t see trash as garbage; they see it as a gourmet meal. Always empty trash receptacles within your facility frequently, and use spring cleaning as a time to create an annual waste-removal schedule for staff. Place dumpsters as far away from your building as possible, and regularly clean and rotate them to eliminate pests or residue that might attract them.

Set a realistic, yet rigorous, schedule for spring cleaning, and don’t forget to practice safe storage: store all products in their original containers and regularly dispose of perishable goods as they expire. Get all staff engaged by creating a written sanitation program that has daily, weekly and monthly benchmarks, and includes staff members’ roles. Remember, it is everyone’s responsibility to help keep a facility free of pests.

Cleaning is a rite of spring. Remember to keep pest management in mind as you create a plan of attack. This way you’ll be well on your way to reducing pest pressures for your facility and creating a healthier environment for everyone.

Alice Sinia, Ph.D. is Resident Entomologist – Regulatory/Lab Services for Orkin Canada focusing on government regulations pertaining to the pest control industry. With more than 10 years of experience, she manages the Quality Assurance Laboratory for Orkin Canada and performs analytical entomology as well as provides technical support in pest/insect identification to branch offices and clients. For more information, email Alice Sinia at asinia@orkincanada.com or visit www.orkincanada.com

Cockroaches especially enjoy hanging out in the cardboard because they can feed off the glue that holds the boxes together.

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It appears that some regulatory bodies in North America are considering taking significant action in hopes of reducing the number of slip-and-fall accidents that occur annually. In the United States, for example, the National Safety Council estimates that nearly nine million people end up in emergency rooms each year with many of these job-related accidents. And, the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) reports that over 42,000 workers are injured annually due to slip-and-fall accidents, representing approximately 17
per cent of the “time loss injuries” in the country.¹

The foodservice industry, which can include everything from commercial kitchens in restaurants and hotels, to scores of commercial food processing facilities, appears to be one of the industries that experiences the most slip-and-fall accidents.

According to ISSA, more than three million foodservice workers in the U.S., and more than one million guests or patrons of foodservice facilities are injured each year as a result of slip-and-fall accidents.

Further, a study by the National Floor Safety Institute (NFSI) indicates that the foodservice industry spends more than $2 billion annually on such injuries in terms of medical costs, absenteeism and lost productivity. The study also found that these accidents are increasing by about 10 per cent each year.²

While these are staggering high numbers, we must remember that slip-and-fall accidents are certainly not a problem just within the foodservice industry.

In fact, virtually all facilities maintained by cleaning contractors and in-house cleaning professionals—from schools and offices, to large and small retail stores—have their share of these accidents. Further, it appears that these accidents are on the increase in almost all industries studied.

Because of this, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has proposed a new set of floor safety guidelines. These guidelines are designed to essentially raise the bar on floor safety requirements with the hope of reducing slips, falls and other floor-related injuries.

Further, building managers and cleaning professionals in both the United States and Canada should know that OSHA and CCOHS often adopt similar standards. When one organization introduces a new set of rules or regulations, they are often reviewed with the other, helping companies that have workers or facilities in both countries meet similar safety standards.

**Floor Inspections and Cleaning**

While the new guidelines include several components, there are two rules being considered that building managers, foodservice managers and cleaning professionals should be particularly aware of.

The first of these regulations requires that a “qualified person” be called in to address the safety of workers in food-preparation industries, according to the NFSI, they will apply to most other industries just as well.³

Further, building managers and cleaning professionals in both the United States and Canada should know that OSHA and CCOHS often adopt similar standards. When one organization introduces a new set of rules or regulations, they are often reviewed with the other, helping companies that have workers or facilities in both countries meet similar safety standards.
such a way that they help prevent possible slip-and-fall accidents.

Foodservice facilities are accustomed to having their locations inspected by public health officials. This just means there will likely be a new inspector on the horizon. However, other types of facilities—such as schools and office buildings—are not accustomed to this type of inspection.

OSHA defines a qualified person as someone “capable of identifying existing and potential [floor] hazards…that may pose a risk or be dangerous.”

Qualified floor experts already exist throughout North America. However, they are typically called in by attorneys and insurance companies to determine a floor’s condition after a slip-and-fall accident has occurred. Now they will be called in before an accident happens, with the goal of preventing one from occurring in the first place.

The other significant guideline focuses on floor cleaning and maintenance.

It is generally accepted that an effective custodial cleaning program not only helps minimize slip-and-fall accidents, but is crucial in helping to prevent them.

This fact is now also officially recognized by OSHA, which specifies that cleaning, whether performed by in-house staff or by an outside contractor, be provided by personnel educated in proper floor cleaning and maintenance.

This training is now provided by NFSI and will likely be available through other organizations in the future.

The Equipment Connection

According to ISSA, when it comes to cleaning tools and equipment, there are specific steps foodservice facilities can take to help lower the risk for slip-and-fall accidents. The organization suggests choosing “floor cleaning and maintenance products with proven slip resistant characteristics…comparable with the particular flooring surface installed.”

ISSA also suggests selecting NFSI-certified floor-care products. These are tools, floor treatments, matting systems, chemicals and equipment that have been independently tested in both the laboratory and real-world applications. If the tests indicate the equipment meets specific criteria—referred to as “high traction”—and can help prevent an accident, it can then be certified.

Although there are mops and buckets certified by the organization, the NFSI finds that alternative floor cleaning equipment is often more effective than these conventional tools at helping to reduce slip-and-fall accidents. High on the list are “spray-and-vac (no-touch)” and “dispense-and-vac” cleaning systems that clean floors without the use of mops.

The big concern with mops and buckets is that they get soiled as soon as they are used. This can then spread contaminants over the floor, potentially causing the floor to become slippery and thus inviting an accident to occur.

While “dual-cavity” bucket systems may help forestall this soiling process, eventually it does occur even with these bucket systems. The result: This form of floor cleaning can defeat the entire effort to help prevent slip-and-fall accidents in the first place.

FOOTNOTES

(1) Based on 2011 statistics.
(3) A dispense-and-vac system was one of the winners of the 2012 Kitchen Innovations Awards presented by the National Restaurant Association. One of the reasons for this award was the system’s ability to clean greasy and extremely difficult-to-clean floor surfaces that might lead to accidents.
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Building A Hospital

To Improve Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Practices

By BARBARA PAUL, Manager of the Environmental Services Department, Bridgepoint Active Healthcare and Co-chair of Region 3, OHHA & JANE TOOZE, RN, BScN, Infection Control Practitioner, Bridgepoint Active Healthcare

THE ULTIMATE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (ES) & IPAC CHALLENGE

Infection prevention and control (IPAC) is one of the largest challenges that ES managers face every day. The opening of a brand new hospital offered us the opportunity to develop strategies to engage our environmental services team as active participants in IPAC Practices.

A PURPOSE-BUILT HOSPITAL

In April 2013, Bridgepoint Active Healthcare moved into a newly-constructed, state-of-the-art hospital—a building that offers patients a space designed to promote health and wellness, and allow them to return to their active lives as soon as possible.

Previously, our ES team had been responsible for an area where there were no private patient rooms. In fact, four bathrooms and two showers were shared by as many as 50 patients, and there were no hand-wash sinks available at point-of-care.

Additionally, cleaning equipment was outdated and, because of a lack of proper storage space, equipment and linens had to be kept in crowded areas (often in the hallways). This increased the risk of cross contamination.

The new hospital is designed with all the amenities of a modern-day healthcare facility—hands-free taps, toilets and soap dispensers, and foot-controlled hand-wash sinks. There are two soiled utility rooms per unit with a flusher/disinfectant machine in each, and one negative pressure room per unit. Each patient room has its own bathroom with a maximum of two patients sharing a toilet and four patients sharing a shower.

From an ES perspective a number of
factors enable our teams to function more efficiently – including larger cleaning closets, a biomedical fridge and improved communication with a call bell system and phones.

**THE CHALLENGE:**
**NEW SURFACES, MORE SPACE**

The newer surfaces – although easier to clean and maintain – needed a high-level strategy focused on developing the material and human resources to maintain it. From an equipment perspective, we needed new tools to clean these surfaces. This included the purchase of items such as small steamers, microfibre cloths and mops.

More importantly, the new building is 2.3 times the square footage larger than the old hospital, meaning we have 680,000 sq. feet to keep clean and infection-free every day.

Additionally, we stressed the importance of food infection control practices in being successful in this new space. We nearly doubled our staff complement to ensure that we could efficiently cover the space of the new building. And, new job descriptions were created to ensure our teams understood that they were active IPAC participants.

**TRAINING**

All of our vendors and staff needed training on the new space – from remembering where the supplies are kept to understanding how long it takes to cover the larger space.

We partnered with our infection control practitioner to ensure our staff were properly trained on personal protective equipment, hand hygiene and additional precautions.

A two-day training workshop was developed by organizational leaders in partnership with our vendors. These sessions included emergency code training, safety evaluations, WHMIS, IPAC issues, and a demonstration from the vendor on the cleaning cart set-up and mopping process. We were thrilled to be part of the training for the new ES staff. Infection prevention and control is such an important patient safety issue. Effective ES practices have helped Bridgepoint Active Healthcare reduce its hospital-acquired infection rates.

On the second day we had staff participate in training, which was set up similar to a “circuit training” approach. We had six different locations/rooms for the training modules.

Staff broke into smaller groups and spent 45 minutes in a room/area that focused on a particular skill important to their role. They received training on putting on and taking off personal protective equipment, as well as hand hygiene in the IPAC room. Hands-on cleaning training included a high-touch patient room cleaning, office cleaning, equipment use, and ergonomic string mop training.

**PREPARING THE NEW BUILDING**

The ES team was fully involved in preparing for the move. To begin, we needed to ensure that our new equipment was ordered on-time and the new facility was “hospital-clean” when patients were moved in. We used a room mock-up to test all of the equipment before our patients entered, including how we would change the cubicle curtains and how the toilet roll holders would be placed, etc.

We also needed to understand the space – how long did it take to transport soiled linens from the units to the utility rooms? How long did it take to clean a patient’s bed space and washroom?

**MOVING DAY**

Moving 348 patients from one hospital to another in eight hours took an immense amount of planning. Every detail was organized so we could transport equipment and patients safely, comfortably and efficiently.

To ensure that our new facility was ready for the eventful day, we established area-
new product Showcase

PVA MICRO – A BLEND OF MATERIAL PROVIDING UNIQUE APPLICATION BENEFITS

Vileda Professional has launched a new cloth that combines knitted microfibre with PVA (polyvinyl alcohol), and offers attractive and unique benefits to users.

“Users often have to make a choice between a cloth that offers high cleaning performance, but with a second step of after-drying; or a cloth that allows for fast, one-step wiping, but with less effective cleaning results,” a company spokesperson said. “With the PVAmicro this is no longer the case, as the patent pending combination of two materials offers both high cleaning performance and high absorbency.”

Due to extensive research and development work, Vileda Professional has been able to combine well-known knitted microfibre fabric with the company’s expertise in PVA coating, equating to a unique material composition.

The knitted microfibre base material is infused in a special way with a PVA solution. This solution makes the cloth’s inner structure smooth, revealing superior cleaning performance. PVA is well-known in the professional cleaning industry and is used for synthetic chamois, which is appreciated for streak free cleaning and absorbency.

In combination with the high cleaning performance of knitted microfibre, the PVA micro cloth offers its users several advantages.

For more information, contact Vileda Professional at www.vileda.com.

DE NORA NEXT INTRODUCES NEW GISELLE SYSTEM

De Nora NEXT recently launched its new Giselle on-site system to sanitize a variety of environmental and professional surfaces.

“The excellence of the electrochemical cell technology, the know-how and the leadership of Industrie De Nora are now enclosed in a mobile, company and small size unit, available to all professional cleaning operators,” said Giorgio Paula, business manager at De Nora NEXT.

The Giselle line is said to produce a sanitizing, environmentally-friendly solution using only tap water, salt and electrical current. According to the company, the Soleva™ solution is effective against viruses and germs, but does not have negative side effects. In addition, the system is said to be safe to use because there is no dilution of toxic agents or chemical residuals left on surfaces.

The selection of the solution concentration at 1000 ppm (0.1 per cent) or 6000 (0.6 per cent), through the multilingual menu, avoids an excessive use of sodium hypochlorite to achieve the desired sanitizing goal. Then, an RFID controlled process guarantees quality and accuracy to the final product.

The system is said to be an extremely compact mobile production unit, equipped with a 10-litre canister for water supply. Once connected to the electrical outlet, Giselle is ready to use.

For more information, contact De Nora NEXT at info@denoranext.com or visit the company’s web site at www.denoranext.com.

NEW GOJO ECO-PREFERRED PUMICE HAND CLEANER PROVIDES OUTSTANDING RESULTS

GOJO Industries has announced the launch of its new GOJO® ECO-PREFERRED™ pumice hand cleaner, the first green certified product in the GOJO Tough Soils portfolio. The innovative pumice hand cleaner is said to quickly and effectively clean medium- to heavy-soils, and conditions hardworking hands.

Developed for those who work in oil, grease and other medium- to heavy-soils, the pumice hand cleaner is said to deliver GOJO cleaning performance and environmental credibility by achieving UL’s EcoLogo certification.

EcoLogo certification is awarded to products that demonstrate both effective performance compared to traditional products on the market, and environmental leadership based on the product’s proven ability to meet or exceed strict, third-party standards for a range of human health and environmental impacts.

The pumice hand cleaner is also a USDA certified bio-based product with an 85 per cent bio-based formulation. To qualify for the USDA BioPreferred Program’s certification, hand cleaners must have a minimum of 64 per cent bio-based content.

Certified bio-based, as recognized by the Department of Agriculture, is a measurement of a product’s ‘new’ carbon content relative to its overall carbon content. New carbon is derived from plants and other renewable agricultural, marine and forestry materials. Fossil carbon is derived from petroleum (oil). The presence of new carbon can be one important attribute in a product’s overall environmental sustainability.

The readily biodegradable formulation is powered by naturally-renewable ingredients, natural scrubbers and contains no petroleum solvents. The pumice hand cleaner is available in one-gallon and one-half-gallon, recyclable HDPE bottles with pump dispensers for convenient use.

“GOJO ECO-PREFERRED pumice hand cleaner demonstrates our company’s commitment to addressing customer needs through product innovation that advances social, environmental and economic sustainability,’’ said Harold Tyreman, sales and marketing vice president for automotive and industrial markets. “This new addition to our portfolio delivers sustainable value by combining the superior cleaning performance expected from GOJO with skin health benefits for hardworking hands, while supporting customers’ sustainability objectives.”

The new hand cleaner is part of a portfolio of hand cleaners and conditioners that comprise a complete hand hygiene regimen for healthy skin in tough environments.

For more information, contact GOJO at www.gojo.com.

OMNIFLEX AUTOVAC SYSTEM INEXPENSIVE TO BUY AND OWN

Kaivac’s OmniFlex AutoVac is said to be inexpensive to buy and own because “it has few moving parts, so very little can go wrong.”

And, according to the company, if something does go wrong, it often can be fixed on the spot. For example, the AutoVac’s squeegee blades can be changed in seconds without tools.

As to performance, independent lab tests report the AutoVac removed nearly 99 per cent of targeted soils – better than a conventional autoscrubber – and cleans approximately 16,000 sq. feet in an hour.

For more information, visit the Kaivac web site at www.kaivac.com or call (800) 287-1136.
SCATTER® GRANULAR ODOR COUNTERACTANT INTRODUCED

Scatter granular odor counteractant is said to be the perfect hot weather choice for trash odors. The easy-to-apply, powerful absorbent odor control granules contain the Metazene® odor destroying additive. Scatter brand granules are said to be formulated to handle even the toughest odors from restaurant, institutional, commercial and municipal waste. The granules are said to offer the “perfect solution” to odor problems from trash containers, garbage dumpsters and compactors.

The granules can be applied to odor sources in and around garbage dumpsters, trash compactors, landfill sites, sewage treatment plants, rendering plants, and food waste, meat, fish and poultry processing areas, etc. It is also said to be ideal for use on board cruise liners and sailing vessels.

Scatter granules offer a triple-phase odor control system that is said to absorb rancid, odor-causing spills, counteracts odors with Metazene odor counteractant, and control and freshen airborne malodours.

For more information, contact SurcoTech® at (412) 252-7000 or visit the company’s web site at www.surcotech.com.

SPRAYPRO ALLOWS USERS TO MOP WITHOUT A BUCKET

Vileda Professional has introduced the SprayPro floor mopping system with both the professional and semi-professional user in mind. The company originally launched the “bucket-less” SprayExpress in 2006. The SprayPro is a further developed and user-friendlier solution that is said to simplify floor cleaning.

The system provides all the components necessary to clean a floor in one unit. The water/cleaning solution is filled into the handle and is then simply sprayed onto the floor with a pump mechanism. The system is said to improve working ergonomics, as there is no need to carry heavy buckets around or no wringing of mops.

SprayPro is ideal for wet, damp and dry mopping, and is compatible with all existing Vileda floor cleaning systems – ClickSpeed, UltraSpeed and Swep.

For more information, contact Vileda at www.vileda.com.

CINTAS INTRODUCES NEW GLOVE LINE

Cintas, a provider of first-aid and safety products, has introduced a comprehensive disposable glove line with latex, nitrile and vinyl options from its private label brand – The SafetyDirector™.

The single-use, natural rubber latex gloves are said to be ideal for handling harsh chemicals, provide protection in wet and dry work environments, and offer enhanced comfort and fit.

Manufactured without the use of natural rubber, the nitrile and vinyl gloves are recommended for individuals with latex sensitivity. Nitrile gloves feature textured fingertips for enhanced dexterity and gripping. Blue nitrile gloves are said to be ideal for food, janitorial/sanitation and laboratory use, while thicker, black nitrile gloves are the perfect choice for automotive and industrial applications.

Vinyl gloves are also durable, economical and intended for single use only. Each type of glove keeps employees safe at work and in accordance with personal protective equipment (PPE) regulations, thereby reducing injuries, fines and workers’ compensation claims.

For more information, please visit the Cintas web site at www.cintas.com/FirstAidSafety/.

LONZA OFFERS DISINFECTANTS TO COMBAT NOROVIRUS ON CRUISE SHIPS

The need for disinfectants was underscored yet again this winter, as hundreds of people aboard several cruise ships in the Caribbean fell ill with Norovirus. Lonza’s Hygiene and Preservation business is said to offer the highly-effective Lonzagard® family of disinfectants in multiple delivery forms to help combat the spread of the virus.

Reports of severe gastrointestinal illnesses caused by the Norovirus have plagued the cruise-ship industry for many years. All too routine are news videos of vessels affected by the outbreaks having to return to port early.

The line of Lonzagard disinfectant products (available in North America and Europe) is said to enable effective cleaning and disinfecting of all areas of a ship, including guest rooms, dining areas, bathrooms and other quarters. These products are offered in multiple, easy-to-use forms, from single-use wipes to sprays and concentrates.

“Our products have proven efficacy against Norovirus, and are quick and easy to use,” said Ernesto Lippert, global director for Lonza’s Hygiene and Preservation business. “In fact our North American Wipes Plus 2™ offering has a low, four-minute contact time.”

Lonza provides these technologies through partners serving the cruise ship industry.

For more information, visit the company’s web site at www.lonzagard.com/norovirusolutions.

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YARBROUGH NAMED CARPET & RUG INSTITUTE (CRI) PRESIDENT

The chairman and board of directors of the Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) have announced that Joe W. Yarbrough has been selected to lead the non-profit carpet industry trade group as president. Yarbrough will begin his duties on Mar. 31, 2014, replacing current President Werner Braun, who is retiring.

Yarbrough comes to CRI from Mohawk Industries, where he most recently served as senior vice president for advanced manufacturing engineering. Earlier in his career, he spent six years with Coronet Industries and was later vice president for manufacturing for Aladdin Mills when that company merged with Mohawk in 1994.

David Jolly, president and CEO of J&J Flooring Group and current CRI board chairman, said that the CRI board of directors is very pleased to welcome Yarbrough as the next president of the organization.

“With his 40-plus years of carpet industry experience, (Yarbrough) brings an unprecedented array of knowledge, experience and insight regarding our customers, markets and opportunities,” he said.

An active supporter of CRI’s volunteer leadership, Yarbrough is a current member and immediate past-chairman of CRI’s Strategic Issues Leadership Council. According to Jolly, Yarbrough’s depth of experience with CRI will benefit the organization as well as the industry as a whole.

“With (Yarbrough) there will be no ramp-up time in assuming his duties, as he is very knowledgeable of the CRI mission, staff and goals,” Jolly said.

A Georgia native, Yarbrough has resided in Dalton since 1972. He and his wife, Nanette, have five children and eight grandchildren. He is an active member of Grove Level Baptist Church and participates in a number of humanitarian and industry organizations, including Ross Woods Adult Day Services. He is also a member of the board of Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE), chairman of the state board of the Technical College System of Georgia, and member and past chairman of the Greater Dalton Chamber of Commerce. He also serves on the board of commissioners for Dalton Utilities.

“I sincerely look forward to working with the CRI member companies and their representatives and the dedicated CRI staff in order to advance the mission and objectives of this great organization, while helping everyone recognize the excellence and value of the products our industry is sending to market,” Yarbrough said.

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TROJAN BATTERY REVAMPS WEBSITE TO SET ITSELF APART FROM THE COMPETITION

Trojan Battery Co., a leading manufacturer of deep-cycle batteries, has launched its newly-revised corporate website designed to be a premiere source of information for the company’s global customers, distributors, dealers and system integrators.

“Our new corporate website will offer customers, distributors and dealers around the world a more detailed look into how Trojan continues to shape the world of deep-cycle battery technologies,” said Elke Hirschman, vice president of marketing. “It also demonstrates Trojan’s commitment to bringing to market only the most advanced battery solutions designed specifically to fulfill the unique needs of each of our market segments.”

Featuring detailed information on battery technologies, maintenance practices and the design of energy storage systems, the new website – www.trojanbattery.com – illustrates how the company sets itself apart from the competition.

The revamped website offers detailed technical data on the company’s energy storage battery solutions for a wide range of applications, which are now identified on the website by new market icons.

Designed for superior performance, rugged durability and long life, Trojan deep-cycle flooded, AGM and gel products are said to be engineered to power a variety of equipment used in golf, renewable energy, aerial work platform, material handling, floor cleaning, transportation and recreation industries. Visitors will also learn about how customers are taking advantage of the company’s deep-cycle batteries to successfully power their applications in these market segments.

The website also features the latest news announcements regarding the company’s new products, technologies and alliances, as well as educational and corporate videos.

EVONIK SELLS STOKO® SKIN CARE TO DEB GROUP

Evonik Industries is selling its global line of skin-care products for professionals – a business that the company bundles under the brand name Stoko® Professional Skin Care. The purchase agreement was signed on Mar. 19, 2014 with the Deb Group of Denby, Great Britain, a global market leader of skin-care systems used in occupational and public settings.

The transaction closing is anticipated in two months, pending approval by the Evonik supervisory board and German antitrust authorities.

“We continue to direct our portfolio toward high-margin specialty chemicals businesses,” said Patrik Wohlhauser, a member of the Evonik executive board. “While Stoko Professional Skin Care enjoys an excellent reputation on the market, its business model fundamentally differs from that of Evonik today. As such, we have decided on a buyer that can best realize the growth potential of the business. We believe that Deb will be a good home for Stoko and its people.”

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STUDY SHOWS GLOBAL FOOD SAFETY INITIATIVE RESULTS IN SAFER FOOD

Sealed Air’s Diversey Consulting in collaboration with GFSI has released the preliminary results of a GFSI study that explores the efficacy and business impact of the implementation of GFSI recognized schemes. Conducted by Sealed Air, the ‘GFSI Efficacy Study’ preliminary results were presented during the Global Food Safety Conference in Anaheim, CA, held in February 2014.

“Certification to a GFSI recognized scheme demonstrates that food safety management systems are more effective, thus delivering greater confidence in the safety of the products which are delivered to the consumer,” said Catherine Francois, global director of Diversey Consulting.

The study included 834 food manufacturers across 21 countries, including organizations in North America, Mexico, Western Europe, Australia and New Zealand. The research concluded that the primary driver to implement a GFSI recognized scheme was to meet an existing or new customer requirement.

Noteworthy study results include the following:
• A large majority of survey respondents say that certification against a GFSI recognized scheme has enhanced their ability to produce safe food;
• A majority of respondents say that certification has helped them improve compliance with existing regulations and helped them better prepare for future regulatory changes;
• The majority of respondents say that certifications have strengthened their food safety culture through enhancements in training, increased communication, better measurements and strengthened monitoring technology, will fundamentally alter and improve standards of safety.

UNGER FOUNDER HONORED WITH POSTHUMOUS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Henry Unger, founder of the global company that has been producing innovative and trusted professional cleaning tools for over 50 years, has received the ultimate accolade – a posthumous Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Window Cleaning Association (IWCA).

The story began back in 1964 when a young window cleaner decided to take a chance. It was in that year that Henry Unger took the latest window cleaning innovations from the United States and introduced them to German window cleaners.

His discerning eye for quality products, tireless pursuit of new and better ways to clean, and his practical experience of knowing the issues that window cleaners faced, proved to be a recipe for success.

The company started from humble beginnings in the attic of Henry’s wife’s grandmother in Hamburg, but soon grew to become the global firm it is today. Unger now has business partners in 80 countries across the world.

Passionate about improving the lives of window cleaners, Unger strived to design products that achieved the best results while making jobs safer, quicker and easier for the professional. He was an active member of the IWCA from the start, strongly supporting its mission to develop professionalism, ethics and standards of safety.

The IWCA Lifetime Achievement Award was established to honour a current or former individual IWCA member who has made a major, life-long contribution to the window cleaning industry as a practicing window cleaner, supplier, promoter or leader. The recognition is above and beyond honorary membership. The Lifetime Achievement Award is said to be extremely elite and not intended to be awarded each year.

Mark Unger, Henry’s son, still helps to guide the company today, together with his two brothers, reaffirming their father’s core values of quality, innovation and customer service.

“This award comes at a time of great significance for Unger as we celebrate our 50th anniversary this year,” said Mark Unger. “The fact that the IWCA is also celebrating an important milestone – their 25th anniversary – makes this even more special.”

EVOVIN SELLSTOKO® SKIN CARE TO DEB GROUP

For the Deb Group, the acquisition is part of a clear growth strategy aimed at continuing to strengthen the company’s position as a global leader on the skin care market. The Stoko purchase particularly stands to benefit the Deb Group by strengthening its market position in Europe, Canada and the United States. In addition, with the help of Stoko, Deb plans to increasingly expand into the new markets of Russia and Brazil.

Stoko’s strength in product quality, service and innovation are the perfect complement to the Deb Group’s sales channels and broad product portfolio. Its innovative business also makes the Stoko brand a powerful addition to the Deb Group line-up.

“It has been a long-standing ambition of Deb’s to join forces with Stoko,” said Bryan Anderson, CEO of Deb. “We want to create the world’s most comprehensive and effective skin care product range for the workplace drawing on the significant innovation portfolio within both companies. This, in concert with vital information provided by Deb’s unique compliance monitoring technology, will fundamentally alter and improve standards of skin care behaviour.”
MAKING PEACE WITH BACTERIA BECAUSE THEY ARE EVERYWHERE AND WE NEED THEM

The healthy facility of the future will not be at war with microbes, but will seek peaceful coexistence.

Why? Simple survival. Microbes are everywhere “and apparently life requires it. For example, the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition reported researchers in Spain found more than 700 different types of bacteria in breast milk.

It has also been reliably stated that there are more foreign microbes on and inside us humans than there are cells of our bodies.

Biotech companies such as Novozymes, have isolated beneficial microbes from all parts of the world, and “in a high-tech version of farming % raised friendly bacteria in large quantities for harvesting enzymes they produce.

Bacteria make and release enzymes to digest their food. When the food for these ‘probiotic’ organisms happens to be a common soil we want to remove, we can harness their voracious appetites for useful purposes.

Most cold water laundry detergents work largely because bacteria from frigid climates have been isolated, farmed and their enzymes harvested for cleaning our laundry in cold water.

So, what is the smart cleaning professional to do with this info?

Understand there is more to be gained from working with nature than against it.

Science has discovered beneficial microbes that – like a microbial ‘PacMan’ game % will eat many of the common soils in buildings. For example, there are bacteria that consume oils typically found in commercial kitchens, so applying a cleaning solution containing these friendly germs in spore form to a tile floor including grout, inoculates the floor with a microscopic workforce that stays on the job for many hours after the humans have left the kitchen.

It has been demonstrated that microbes are so effective at consuming grease that the slip coefficient of the floor rises over time. Translation = free labour.

Of course, pathogens need to be removed and controlled, so cleaning and disinfection will always be part of the toolbox to make environments healthier.

But cleaners do not want to poison or attempt to destroy all germs. As Philip M. Tierno, Jr, PhD, director, Clinical Microbiology and Immunology, New York University Medical Center, and associate professor, departments of Microbiology and Pathology, New York University School of Medicine, said in his book, The Secret Life of Germs:

“First, we must understand the important role that germs play as recyclers of complex organic matter on planet Earth, and in the maintenance of our own health. Germs in the normal human flora can prevent establishment of pathogenic germs in our bodies and also provide us with nutritive materials. Therefore, we must never entertain the notion that all germs are bad and should be eliminated. That is neither possible nor desirable. Because germs are ubiquitous (including in and on human beings), we must learn to live with them. Hence our protective strategy should be focused on reducing the risks of infection.”

Remember to thank your yogurt as an immediate example of how bacteria are our friends, that the microbial good guys outnumber the bad, and they can help us cleanup “naturally.

AMANO PIONEER ECLIPSE REACHES AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE CLARKE AMERICAN SANDERS

Amano Pioneer Eclipse has announced that it has entered into an agreement to purchase Clarke American Sanders from Nilfisk-Advance Inc.

The agreement gives Amano Pioneer Eclipse a market leading position in the wood floor care industry. The Clarke American Sanders acquisition also strengthens the core floor care technology business of Amano Pioneer Eclipse by opening new sales channels for existing product lines. The anticipated transaction close date is Mar. 31, 2014, subject to customary closing conditions.

“Amano Pioneer Eclipse is very excited to acquire Clarke American Sanders,” said Tom Benton, president and CEO of Amano Pioneer Eclipse. “Our management team has significant experience with both the Clarke American Sanders brand and the wood floor industry in general, which makes us uniquely qualified to provide the product quality and customer service levels that the industry has come to expect from this fine brand. Our strength in providing systems to produce and maintain attractive floors will now be enhanced by moving strongly into the wood floor segment of the market.”

Amano Pioneer Eclipse and Nilfisk-Advance will continue working closely together over the coming weeks and months to ensure that customers continue to receive exceptional products and customer support.

Continued From Page 27

STUDY SHOWS GLOBAL FOOD SAFETY INITIATIVE RESULTS IN SAFER FOOD

management commitment.

Frank Yiannas, vice president of food safety for Walmart and vice chair of GFSI said that “This landmark study provides further evidence of the role credible private food safety efforts can play in advancing food safety, enhancing regulatory compliance and promoting a culture of food safety so that consumers worldwide can live better.”

While the research also showed that short-term costs of implementing GFSI recognized schemes exist, some of the efficiencies hoped for through the elimination of redundancies have not been realized. The results will be used to drive even greater operational efficiencies by the GFSI Board.

For more information, visit www.diversey.com/consulting.
The New “Slide & Lock” Velcro Flat Mopping system slides on the upper “track” of the aluminum frame and can be positioned centrally or laterally. Afterwards, simply bring back the “Slide & Lock” to the desired position.

**Maximum hygiene and cleanliness:** One of the rail frame features concerns the interchangeable Velcro strips located on the back of the frame allowing removal of a practical mop ensuring maximum hygiene.

**Available in:**
- 16” / 40 cm
- 18” / 45 cm
- 24” / 60 cm
- 40” / 100 cm

**Simply step on one side of the mop replacement and pull the handle upwards to remove the mop without touching.**
specific clean teams and prepared cleaning stations that allowed us to keep the space feeling fresh. We were well prepared with linen supplies, garbage containers, soap, paper goods, etc.

As each patient set off on their journey from the old hospital and travelled along a covered, decorated path, they were met in the new hospital by cheering staff welcoming them.

Much like patients, hospital equipment made a similar journey to the new facility - all welcomed by our “Clean Team.”

Comprised of ES staff and unit support technicians who worked together, the Clean Team created a car-wash-like set-up. At the various stations, team members had specific roles where they cleaned, made up beds, cleaned equipment or added accessories such as alcohol-based hand rub holders. Beds were then taken to the assigned room to welcome a patient.

There was such a great energy and sense of team work and union on move day that it was clear that the team understood their critical role in infection prevention and patient care. We depended on each and every staff member to do their job to the best of their ability, and they did it. It was certainly an unforgettable day in all of our careers.

BEST PRACTICES LEARNED FROM THE MOVE

Our team has a critical role to play in patient care as agents of infection prevention. Through the process of preparing the hospital, moving patients and learning to work in a new space, we understand that a clean space is critical to ensuring our patients get the best care possible.

Throughout the move period, we held a daily huddle to take note of issues and suggestions around the new space and how best to control infections. We continue these huddles weekly and learn from each other on how we can ensure that we are playing our part to keep the patients safe.

Our challenge didn’t end with the move – it is our everyday priority to provide the best possible infection prevention for the patients. Bridgepoint’s environmental services staff will continue to learn, innovate and adapt to meet the highest quality standards.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS... for the most exciting event of the year: Clean Atlantic 2014, at the Cunard Centre in Halifax, NS, on Wednesday, September 10 will feature the most current technology available in janitorial products, equipment and services, all in one place at one time. Additionally, the Canadian Sanitation Supply Association (CSSA) will offer a three-and-one-half-hour Certified Green Sustainability Contractor certification program during the trade show. Visit www.cssa.com for more details.

Building A Hospital To Improve Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Practices

Clean Atlantic
September 10 2014
The Cunard Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia
A visible clean, powered by Clorox® Bleach.

Clorox® Bleach Cream Cleanser with a 1.3% sodium hypochlorite solution and scrubbing beads.

THE COMPLETE CLEAN
High standards. Proven results.™
INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY BY 30-50%

The RBV Backpack Vacuums

We eliminated the cord, not the performance

- Lightest battery backpack in the industry at 16 lbs.
- Ideal for daytime cleaning systems
- Long-lasting battery performance with 45 minutes of run time
- Interchangeable lithium ion battery pack
- Quiet for less disruption at 45 dB(A)
- Easy-to-read battery status light
- HEPA filtration of 99.97 at 0.3 microns
- Patented rib system prevents loss of suction
- Increases labor productivity by 30-50% or more

Also Available in two Battery-Powered Canisters

Machine $1,229
Including Tools, One Battery and a Rapid Charger.

Spare Battery $325

The first affordable battery-powered backpack vacuum in the industry.

For more information visit our website or contact NaceCare for a free demo.
1.800.387.3210 Toll-Free / nacecare.com