

What's New Newsletter?

The Next Generation of AutoFlush

We are excited to announce the next generation in AutoFlush Clamp technology is available. This unit has exceeded all of our design requirements:

1. Easier to install (the cover doesn't need to be removed to install)
2. A 3 second delay (reduces unwanted flushes)
3. Easier to adjust range setting (Smart Touch 26"-36")

AutoFlush® Clamp Unit ensures your urinals and toilets are always flushed, odor-free and presentable. AutoFlush® Clamp eliminates cross-contamination from handle touching and odors from unflushed fixtures. Easy 1 minute installation with no water shut off and no tools required for installation or replacement of batteries. Built in "daily flush" prevents sewer gas from escaping due to dry traps in unused fixtures. Toilet model includes a "courtesy flush" button.



The AutoFlush® Clamp Unit infrared Object Lock Technology controls flushing like no other system today. You are able to match your flushing needs with the optimum in water conservation, sanitary environment for patrons and occupants of your facilities, and dependable performance. Additionally, for even more user-friendly performance, our new angled design with sophisticated sensor technology guarantees activation even with the toilet seat raised.

Eyegiene Self Cleaning Toilet Seat



Frequently-used toilets often fail to fulfill hygiene standards. The comfortable solution: The Best CleanSeat, the self-cleaning toilet seat that require no electricity and water connections.

Self-cleaning toilet seat powered by batteries. Following each use, the cleaning-process is started automatically. The hygiene sluice lowers itself onto the toilet seat and cleans it with a disinfecting cleaning fluid.

- Can be installed on conventional flush valve toilets
- Can be installed on certain tank toilets
- Seat is powered by eight "C" size batteries (first set included)
- Install time 15 minutes, comes with tape how to install
- Cleaning solution is good for 1250 cleanings before refill
- Easy to refill and clean
- Assures your guest never have to clean the toilet seat

Myers Supply

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Chariot iExtract

Powerful, productive, deep extraction.



Engineered for deep restorative extraction for carpets with heavy accumulation of soil and stains. The iExtract's high pressure, 100 psi pump, 1.2 gpm flow rate, and two 800 rpm counter-rotating cylindrical brushes sweep small debris into a debris bin and aggressively attack and remove soil and stains.

The Chariot iExtract combines the innovative technology of the Chariot stand-up platform and Windsor's 35 years of experience building superior, reliable carpet extractors. The Chariot family of cleaning equipment is the industry's only stand-up platform. It is a truly innovative product that combines the maneuverability of a walk-behind with the speed of a ride-on.



Myers Chemical & Supplies

Get more product info at: www.MyersSupply.com

New Cleaning Industry Management Standard

The much-anticipated Cleaning Industry Management Standard (CIMS) is now available, along with a detailed compliance guide to help cleaning organizations determine the best ways to meet the Standard's requirements, according to an ISSA press release.

The CIMS is a management framework designed to assist cleaning organizations in developing quality, customer-centered organizations. It sets forth those processes, procedures, and supporting documentation that are universally recognized as the hallmarks of a well-run and customer-focused building service contractor (BSC) or in-house service provider (ISP).

ISSA, the leading association for the cleaning industry, spearheaded the Standard's creation, which was developed through a true consensus-based effort. Ultimately, development of the Standard brought together a group of organizations representing more than 100,000 professionals from the cleaning, facilities management, and purchasing communities.

CLEANING INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT STANDARD

"This is an exciting day for our industry," said ISSA Standards Development Manager Dan Wagner. "We believe this Standard can be a rallying point to improve professionalism, identify outstanding cleaning organizations, and communicate value to key decision-makers in terms they can easily understand."

The Standard, which is available for download at www.issa.com/standard, does not specify products or cleaning techniques that must be used, but instead outlines five areas of best-management practices believed to be the cornerstones of a well-managed and customer-centered cleaning organization: Quality Systems; Service Delivery; Human Resources; Health, Safety & Environmental Stewardship; and Management Commitment

ISSA plans to work with a number of key purchasing and facilities management organizations throughout the next year to educate purchasers regarding the benefits of working with a CIMS-compliant BSC as well as the Standard's benefits to in-house organizations.

"A recent benchmarking study of IFMA's members showed that quality is a very important issue when it comes to janitorial services, and we believe this Standard will help our members more easily identify providers who have a strategic plan that allows them to really service the end user," said David Brady, executive director of the International Facility Management Association, a participant in the Standard's creation.

Many facility managers and contract specifiers throughout North America already have contacted ISSA to express an interest in using the Standard as a qualifier for evaluating BSCs.

"I think the Standard is a tool that is long overdue and will be very valuable in selecting contractors you know have a standard of management style capable of producing the results that you want," said Steve Spencer, facilities specialist with State Farm Insurance.

Compliance and Certification

Also now available is the ISSA Cleaning Industry Management Standard Certification Guide, a resource specifically designed to help organizations benchmark their operations against the Standard and prepare for possible certification. ISSA anticipates opening the CIMS Certification Program to the industry at large in October 2007, following a case-study period during which an estimated 20 BSCs and in-house operations will become charter certified organizations.

"Based on industry feedback during the public-comment period, we believe many organizations already have as much as 75 percent of the Standard's requirements in practice already, and the rest of the criteria are reasonably obtainable for a well-run organization," said Wagner.

The Certification Guide offers a variety of suggestions as to how BSCs and ISPs can meet the Standard's requirements, including existing certification, compliance, and training programs that can help meet specific criteria.

For more information go to: <http://www.issa.com/video/index.jsp?video=standard>



ISSA Cautions OSHA Regarding Costs of Adopting GHS

In formal comments submitted to the U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), ISSA urged the agency to take appropriate measures in implementing the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) to mitigate the substantial compliance costs to the cleaning industry.



ISSA's comments were submitted in response to OSHA's Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) that addresses the revision of the Hazard Communication Standard by adopting elements of the GHS. Implementation of the GHS by OSHA will require revisions to labels, MSDSs, and will also require updating employee information and training.

The GHS is a product of a 10-year effort by the United Nations, the goal of which is to harmonize hazard communication internationally as well as domestically. The goal of the international community, including the United States, is to implement the GHS by 2008.

In its comments, ISSA noted that the GHS is expected to yield a number of long-term benefits, including the harmonization of the U.S. domestic system of classifying hazardous chemicals across all major federal agencies (i.e., OSHA, EPA, DOT, and CPSC). In addition, the adoption of the GHS will ensure a uniform system of communicating hazards to employees, including the use of pictograms, resulting in increased label comprehension and enhanced worker health and safety. In addition, adoption of the GHS will facilitate international commerce by reducing impediments to trade in the form of differing hazard classification and communication systems.



ISSA, however, was quick to caution OSHA that the anticipated long-term benefits will impose substantial costs and burdens on the cleaning industry in the form of label and MSDS revisions and employee training unless OSHA takes appropriate measures in implementing the GHS to mitigate these costs.

According to ISSA and its membership, the single most important factor in controlling costs to industry is the timing by which OSHA implements the GHS. In this regard, ISSA urged OSHA to phase in the anticipated label and MSDS revisions over a five-year period because it would allow companies to integrate the GHS changes into their other periodic label and MSDS revisions.

ISSA noted further that OSHA-provided compliance assistance and outreach also has great potential to reduce the economic impact to industry. ISSA therefore urged OSHA to provide extensive print and educational materials for all channel partners in the cleaning industry.

OSHA's ANPR, issued September 12, is the first step in what is expected to be a protracted rulemaking period. An aggressive estimate has OSHA issuing a final rule on GHS by the end of 2008, with implementation expected to be phased in over years rather than months.

ISSA to Launch Free Online Video Series

ISSA announced it is launching a new online Educational Quick Clips series of cleaning industry and business management videos on December 11, at www.issa.com/quickclips.

The first Quick Clip will feature Steve Ashkin of The Ashkin Group consulting firm. To kick off the series, Ashkin will host an online chat on Green Cleaning.

The Quick Clips series, broadcast on ISSA-TV, the association's online video community, will provide brief (two-to-five-minute) video clips from an array of industry-specific and general business experts, on topics ranging from techniques on green cleaning and work loading.



Surface Cleaning & Hand Hygiene Play Critical Role

Type “schools and staph infections” into a leading Internet search engine, and you’ll find over 360,000 results. And for good reason.

The latest National Cleaning Survey from The Soap and Detergent Association (SDA) finds Americans are concerned about reports of skin infections, like *Staphylococcus aureus*, in their children’s schools.

If this bacterium becomes resistant to methicillin, a powerful antibiotic commonly used to fight Staph infections, recovery from the infection becomes much more difficult. This antibiotic resistant strain is known as MRSA, or Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. In the past, nearly all cases of MRSA were found in hospitalized patients, but now there is an increasing number of infections acquired outside hospitals and in the community.

SDA’s recent survey of 1008 American adults found 74 percent were concerned about ensuring good hand hygiene practices in schools, given many recent reports about infections spreading in scholastic settings.

Separately, 84 percent said they were concerned about ensuring good hand hygiene practices for themselves and their family members at home.

“Surface cleaning, disinfection and proper hand hygiene all play critical roles in helping to prevent the spread of staph infections in schools, homes and health care settings,” said Nancy Bock, SDA Vice President of Education. “People’s levels of awareness of infection risk and prevention methods are promising. To stay their healthiest, people need to convert their awareness into action.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), good hygiene is critical in preventing staph or skin infections:

- Keep your hands clean by washing thoroughly with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Keep cuts and scrapes clean and covered with a bandage until healed.
- Avoid contact with other people’s wounds or bandages.
- Avoid sharing personal items such as towels or razors.

(Source: CDC, Community-Associated MRSA Information for the Public, http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa_ca_public.html#8)

And when you are around someone who has a staph infection, there are additional steps that can be taken to avoid spreading the infection to family and friends, including:

- Clean surfaces daily with an EPA-registered disinfectant according to the manufacturer’s directions to disinfect all non-disposable items and surfaces that may have come in contact with the infected area, wound drainage, or soiled supplies.
- Wash soiled linens and clothes with hot water and laundry detergent. Dry them in a hot dryer, if possible.
- Wash utensils and dishes in the usual manner, with dish detergent and hot water or in a dishwasher.

(Sources: “How to keep family safe from your staph infection,” Feb. 2006, RNWeb.com, <http://www.rnweb.com/rnweb/data/articlestandard/rnweb/052006/302303/article.pdf>; “Guidelines for Reducing the Spread of Staph/CA-MRSA in Non-Healthcare Settings,” Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Dec. 2004, http://lapublichealth.org/acd/docs/MRSA/MRSA_Guideline_12_20_04.pdf.)

Americans’ Generally Aware of Hygiene Importance in Spread of Viral Diseases

Many viral infections, such as colds, flu and gastrointestinal infections are spread through person-to-person contact or contact with contaminated surfaces. Proper handwashing is the simplest and most effective way to prevent these infections from spreading.



According to SDA's recent survey, most Americans are aware of the numerous benefits of clean hands. A full 90 percent of respondents believe that handwashing can help reduce the spread of a viral flu pandemic, and 87 percent believe hand hygiene can be helpful in preventing the spread of a viral disease outbreak such as the avian flu.

But that same survey found that 36 percent of Americans seldom or never wash their hands after sneezing.

"This is where we need to do better," added Bock. "Many of the germs that can make us sick are spread hand-to-hand or hand-to-surface."

SDA's Online, No-Cost Information for Consumers

SDA has online information for consumers – at no cost – on the proper and safe use of cleaning, disinfecting, and hand hygiene products.

"Clean and Safe in the 21st Century," a guide to safe and effective use of cleaning and disinfecting products, is available online at www.cleaning101.com/health



The logo for the Green Cleaning Network is displayed within a light green rectangular box. The text "Green Cleaning Network" is written in a dark green, sans-serif font. Below it, the tagline "accelerating the adoption of green cleaning" is written in a smaller, reddish-brown, sans-serif font.

The Green Cleaning Network was launched at the U.S. Green Building Council's GreenBuild Conference, currently taking place in Denver.

"We are excited to be part of the launch of this important initiative. The green cleaning Network will play an important role in advancing the green building movement" stated Doug Gatlin, the US Green Building Council's program manager for LEED for Existing Buildings.

"The rapid growth of the green cleaning movement over the past decade has created an urgent need for the establishment of a nonprofit group to serve as an umbrella organization for all the players involved with greening the cleaning industry," stated Stephen Ashkin who will serve as the executive director.

The Green Cleaning Network will bring together and facilitate the sharing of information among a wide spectrum including schools and universities, healthcare facilities, government and commercial office buildings, hospitality and lodging facilities, as well as cleaning professionals, facility and property managers, policy makers, advocates, third-party certifiers, and many more.

Rochelle Davis, executive director of the Healthy Schools Campaign, one of the founding members of the Green Cleaning Network, accentuated this need. "We believe there is enormous value in learning from others and moving towards a common definition of 'green' across various market sectors," she said.

Another goal of the Green Cleaning Network is to tear down barriers and to eliminate confusion about green cleaning and to better educate the marketplace. "There are a growing number of definitions for green cleaning today," Ashkin said. "The message is becoming confused because each industry sector defines green cleaning a little differently and is setting requirements for programs that are unique to that sector."

"We firmly believe in the power of the marketplace and believe that education and eliminating confusion and competing definitions will help everyone implement greener cleaning practices faster, easier and more cost competitively" says Ashkin. "Not only will this be good for facility managers and industry, but the real winners will be building occupants and future generations through the adoption of healthier and more sustainable cleaning practices."

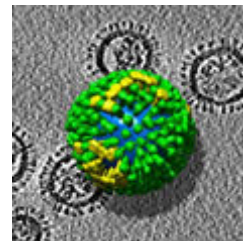
The founding members of the Green Cleaning Network include the Healthy Schools Campaign, Hospitals for a Healthy Environment, International Executive Housekeepers Association, Responsible Purchasing Network and the U.S. Green Building Council. The Green Cleaning Network is being set up as a 501 c 3 not-for-profit educational organization with a goal of having 100,000 buildings in the Network.

According to Ashkin, "Author and anthropologist Margaret Mead once said, 'never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.' Our goal is to make this a very large group and to rapidly accelerate our ability to truly make a difference." <http://www.greencleaningnetwork.org/>



OSHA Unveils New Guidance for Protecting Employees Against Avian Flu

According to their Web site, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) unveiled new safety and health guidance that alerts employees and employers about the hazards of occupational exposure to avian influenza from infected birds, or "avian flu," and provides practical recommendations on ways to avoid infection.



"We encourage employers and employees who are most likely to be exposed to avian flu to take the appropriate precautions," said OSHA Administrator Ed Foulke. "This guidance offers them practical tips, such as hand washing and the use of proper protective equipment, for preventing illness."

Wild birds, particularly waterfowl, are natural hosts of avian flu viruses and often show no symptoms; however, some of the viruses can cause high mortality in poultry, including the H5N1 virus. Some strains of avian flu viruses carried by these wild birds can infect domestic fowl and in turn can infect humans, causing fever, cough, sore throat, eye infections and muscle pain. Avian flu can also lead to pneumonia, acute respiratory distress, and other severe and life-threatening complications. The most common route of transmission to humans is by contact with contaminated poultry.

The new document updates guidance on avian flu issued by OSHA in 2004. The update provides separate recommendations for poultry employees and those who handle other animals, and for laboratory employees, healthcare personnel, food handlers, travelers, and U.S. employees stationed abroad. The primary focus is on good hygiene, including use of gloves and hand washing, as well as respiratory protection for those who work with infected animals or individuals.

The guidance also includes links to helpful Web sites with additional information, and a list of technical articles and resources, including a history on flu pandemics, symptoms and outcomes of various strains of the avian flu, a summary of the bird importation regulations, and details on the transmission of the virus.

For more information on federal activities on avian flu and pandemic flu, please see <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>.



OSHA and Alliance Launch Safety and Health Web Page

OSHA and a consortium of Alliance participants have introduced a new Safety and Health Topics page called "Making the Business Case for Safety and Health." By outlining the benefits of integrating workplace safety into the core function of a business, this new resource is designed to assist businesses of all sizes. The page includes links to resources from OSHA and other organizations to help safety managers demonstrate to management that investment in workplace safety and health makes good business sense.

This Web resource was developed in coordination with the American Industrial Hygiene Association, American Society of Safety Engineers, Center for Business and Public Policy, the Independent Electrical Contractors, Independent Lubricant Manufacturers Association, National Federation of Independent Business, Society of the Plastics Industry, and the Society for Chemical Hazard Communication. It includes a "Highlights" feature that provides brief summaries of key information. This information is organized by industry, safety and health topics. To view this useful and timely resource go to www.osha.gov/dcsp/alliances/index.html



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