

CLEANING UP

News & Views on Our Industry

Cleaning and Disinfecting: Overkill?

What is the difference between Cleaning and Disinfecting?

Although the terms “cleaning” and “disinfecting” are often used interchangeably, their process and purpose differ. Knowing the distinct functions of cleaning and disinfecting will not only help you develop a more efficient and cost-effective cleaning program, it will also help safeguard the health and safety of those around you.

Cleaning is a process which removes substantial amounts of any material that is not part of an item, including dust, soil, a large number of micro-organisms and the organic matter (eg. feces, blood) that protects them. Cleaning is usually a prerequisite to disinfection and sterilization. In contrast, **disinfecting** is a process that eliminates an item’s potential to cause infection by reducing the number

of microorganisms present. A disinfectant is a chemical capable of achieving disinfection.

How to prevent disease?

The first and best line of defense against viruses and infections is good hygiene combined with proper cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces. These practices can protect against illnesses as varied as *Staphylococcus* infections, the common cold, the flu, gastrointestinal disorders, meningitis, bronchitis, and hepatitis A.

How to develop a safe and effective cleaning program?

1. Cleaning:

A thorough cleaning of the surfaces that people frequently touch (i.e. sinks, toilets, doorknobs, light switches, elevator buttons, etc.) is a key step in preventing the spread of disease. Cleaning should remove many of the germs living on these surfaces, but the ones left behind will soon begin to grow and re-accumulate. Therefore, to be safe, most janitors also use a disinfectant product to kill the bacteria and viruses that are present. In order to remove all disease causing organisms, including spores, an additional sterilization process would be required.

a). Dilution Control:

In order to ensure the safety of your janitorial staff and to gain optimum use of the cleaning products that you

purchase, it is important to have a proper dilution control system and to have training from your Wesclean Sales Representatives.

b). Green Cleaning:

Consider cleaning with environmentally preferable products in order to reduce exposure to dangerous chemicals. By carefully choosing environmentally sound cleaning chemicals, cleaning methods and cleaning equipment, businesses can realize significant productivity gains and increase the indoor air quality (IAQ). Good air quality results in an environment where workers feel healthy and comfortable and as a result, are more productive. This, in turn, decreases both costs and liabilities.

2. Disinfection:

a). Select the proper disinfectant:

Disinfectant products work by oxidizing the germs, breaking down their cell walls, or otherwise deactivating them. Different ingredients or combinations of ingredients kill different germs. Therefore you either need to select a disinfectant that works on the specific germs you are trying to get rid of, or select a broad-spectrum product that works on all of the germs that you might encounter.

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Blow Out Deals!



For Info on New Products

Visit www.wesclean.com and click on the “What’s New?” link.

b). Follow the instructions:

Be sure that cleaning procedures allow the disinfectant to stay on surfaces for the full amount of time recommended by the product instructions. Leaving the product on a surface for longer than recommended does not increase its effectiveness but can lead to dangerous and unnecessary chemical exposures. Leaving it on for less time than recommended can inhibit its effectiveness.

c). Review MSDS:

Take care to review each product's **Material Safety Data Sheet** for other ingredients that may harm the user. For example, be wary of combined cleaner-disinfectants that contain butoxyethanol or ethanolamine.

d). Know when to disinfect and when to clean:

In order to use disinfectants most optimally and to reduce their negative effects, it is important to educate your cleaning staff and to carefully plan your cleaning maintenance program.

The use of disinfectants should be limited to areas where germs and infections are easily spread. For other areas, a thorough cleaning preferably using green cleaning products, should suffice. A discriminate use of disinfectants will also save your company both time and money.

e). Proper Hand Washing:

Proper hand washing is the single most important measure for preventing the spread of germs, viruses and infection. Physical removal of contaminants by washing with soap and water is a very effective means of infection control. Failure to wash your hands thoroughly and for the proper length of time is one the major problems of infection control. Educate your staff and the public about proper hand washing technique.

In addition to a regular cleaning and maintenance program, taking the extra few minutes to wash your hands, encouraging your employees to do the same, and ensuring that your com-

pany is providing the most hygienic environment to do so, have become essential for any business. These simple actions will go a long way in protecting the health and safety of your employees and customers.



- Areas most frequently missed during hand washing
- Less frequently missed
- Not missed

Thank you to Avmor for providing this article.



For more information please contact your nearest **Wesclean branch** to have one of our **knowledgeable Sales Representatives** visit you on site, to discuss how partnering with Wesclean will positively affect your business.

Equipment Special!



PSP 200

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PSP 380



Item No: 2200013

\$ 349.00

Our ProSave series of vacuums boast a 1,200-watt motor that provides 110" of lift and 114 cfm. Combined with filtration of 98.6% efficiency @ 0.5 microns, you have a winning combination. Autosave feature automatically starts the vacuum on low for reduced power consumption. Noise levels of 47 dB(A) on low power and 49 on high make these units excellent for daytime cleaning.

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TTB 3226

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Item No: 1900801

\$ 10,995.00

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For more information on these and other products, contact your **local Wesclean branch** at 1-888-337-2929 or visit **www.wesclean.com**

Avmor Foaming Hand Soap & Green Certified Disinfectants



EP71 FOAMING HAND SOAP

It is formulated with vegetable derived emulsifiers, foaming agents and emollients.

*** No fragrance * No colour**

EP50 CLEANER DISINFECTANT (Hydrogen Peroxide Solution)

7770071 (1.8 L)
7770072 (4 L)

Recommended use:

- * Sinks * Faucets * Counters
- * Urinals * Toilets * Walls * Stalls * Floors



EP51B QUAT DISINFECT (Quaternary Solution)

7770074 (1.8 L)
7770075 (4 L)

Recommended use:

- * Finished floors * Walls * Tables * Countertops
- * Chairs * Toilets * Sinks * Shower Stalls



Proper Hand Soap Dispenser Use with Gojo

AIRBORNE GERMS from environment

HAND CONTACT by cleaning crew



FOREIGN OBJECTS

VANDALISM by washroom visitors



Refillable bulk soap threatens the health of washroom users

AND YOUR GOOD RELATIONSHIPS WITH CUSTOMERS.

Refillable bulk soap is the kind typically poured from a gallon jug of soap into a dispenser reservoir. One out of four refillable bulk soap dispensers are contaminated with illness-causing bacteria.

The really bad news is, once dispensers become contaminated, they can't be cleaned, even with bleach because the bacteria re-grows. Contaminated dispensers need to be replaced in order to protect human health.

25X

Washroom users can have 25 TIMES more germs on their hands AFTER washing with contaminated soap.



BEFORE



AFTER

Actual petri dish photos

Messy, labour-intensive and contamination-prone. Refillable bulk soap dispensers work against your efforts to create a clean, healthy and productive building environment. Fortunately, there's a better way. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Health Canada and the World Health Organization (WHO) have all recognized the bacterial contamination risk of "topping off" refillable bulk soap dispensers, and have issued guidelines against the practice.

Thank you to Gojo for providing this article.

700 mL 1200 mL



Touch manual
R4638784

Touch Free
R4641384

Regard® Refresh Touch Free and Manual Foam Skincare Dispensing Systems

Sleek • Smart • Sustainable

Size Options

Choose from the 1200 mL and 1250mL systems for high-volume needs, or the compact 700 mL dispensers when space is tight. All sizes are fully ADA compliant.

Easy Maintenance

The expanded view and clear refill bottles make it easy to know when to change the refill.

For more information on these and other products, contact your local Wesclean branch at 1-888-337-2929 or visit www.wesclean.com

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Clean hands protect against infection!

- 0 Wet hands with water
- 1 Apply enough soap to cover all hand surfaces
- 2 Rub hands palm to palm
- 3 Right palm over left dorsum with interlaced fingers and vice versa
- 4 Palm to palm with fingers interlaced
- 5 Backs of fingers to opposing palms with fingers interlocked
- 6 Rotational rubbing of left thumb clasped in right palm and vice versa
- 7 Rotational rubbing, backwards and forwards with clasped fingers of right hand in left palm and vice versa
- 8 Rinse hands with water
- 9 Dry thoroughly with a single use towel
- 10 Use towel to turn off faucet
- 11 ...and your hands are safe

Protect yourself: Clean your hands, Wash your hands with soap and water, and dry them thoroughly. Use alcohol-based handrub if you don't have immediate access to soap and water. According to the **World Health Organization**, washing your hands properly takes about as long as singing "Happy Birthday" twice using the images.

BLOW OUT DEALS!

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SUMMER cleaning

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- Anywhere cleaning

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This vacuum includes the Power Head

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- Time Saver
- Soil Removal
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Item No: 2200004



Wesclean's Annual Charity Golf Tournaments 2014

We would like to thank all of our customers, supplier sponsors and associates for making Wesclean's Annual Charity Golf Tournaments in Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver great successes.

We are pleased to announce that \$28,500.00 was raised for Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids Society, CKNW Orphans' Fund for Vancouver and E4C's School Lunch Program of Edmonton.

OUR MISSION: To deliver in a timely and efficient manner superior cleaning products and excellence of service that meets and exceeds all our customer's requirements helping them perform their roles with efficiency and cost effectiveness. To treat employees and associates with fairness and respect and to be supportive to our suppliers in product and market development which will solidify our position as Western Canada's top distributor.

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Working together for a cleaner environment