

# What's New Newsletter?



## Myers Supply

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Myers Supply has now teamed up with AdvanceOnline a leading provider of Web-based environmental health and safety, human resources, construction, transportation, and custom training courses to help companies comply with OSHA, EPA, and DOT regulations. You can now cost-effectively train just one or thousands of employees over the Internet through our Online Institute. Our site allows workers to train anytime, anywhere there is a computer and Internet access, allowing employees to get trained and back to work quickly with little or no downtime. The online training includes OSHA Introductory Courses, OSHA Intermediate

Courses, OSHA 10-Hour Courses, Environmental Compliance Courses and Human Resource Courses. Check out [www.MyersSupply.com](http://www.MyersSupply.com) for a complete online training course list.

## TS Solid Bar Odor Control



Used as an Odor-Counteractant and Air Freshener in personal and common areas of public and private buildings. It may be used alone or in various dispensing cabinets. 75% minimum reduction of standard malodors in occupied spaces (i.e.; hospital odors, bathroom odors, kitchen odors, tobacco smoke odors, etc.). Uniform and continuous results when product is applied with the appropriate dispensing equipment.



### Air King 5

Electrical unit for permanent installation or portable use.  
Holds 2-10 TS Solidbars.  
(Use 2 bars for two-patient room and 6 to 7 for ward area.)  
Has reusable filter.



### Air King 4

Battery-operated unit. Requires 1 "D" cell batteries.  
Features attractive vandal-deterrent type cover.  
Holds 1-4 TS Solidbars.



### Air King Easy-Mount

Cardboard unit holds 1 TS Solidbar or 1 TS Minibar.  
Effective in areas prone to vandalism.

## Twin Center Pull Dispenser



### # 6322 Twin Dispenser

Ideal for restrooms, kitchens, food-preparation areas and other high-traffic locations where sanitation is important. With the hands-free dispenser, you use only the towel you touch, eliminating contamination. Each roll is perforated to deliver only one clean, dry, germ-free sheet at a time, to control usage and reduce waste. Towel waste is a costly problem. Some building service contractors state that wasted paper can cost upwards of 20 percent of their supply budget. Often, janitors change out the toweling in a restroom every night, regardless of consumption and how much is left on the roll. But, janitors also can't leave stub rolls in the dispenser because this is typically too little toweling to meet demand. The 6322 twin dispenser equipped with a stub-roll feature's the perfect solution.

**VONDREHLE**  
CORPORATION

## Myers Chemical & Supplies

Get more product info at: [www.MyersSupply.com](http://www.MyersSupply.com)

[MyersSupply.com](http://MyersSupply.com)

## Chariot™ iVacuum Wide Area Vacuum

Cleaner carpet. Greater coverage. Less work. The battery powered Chariot iVacuum will get your carpet cleaner, faster! The iVacuum's floating suspension system provides consistent brush contact over uneven surfaces for unmatched cleaning with no operator adjustment needed. The unique brush system features two counter-rotating cylindrical brushes to effectively clean and agitate the carpet surface. The vacuum system ensures top notch vacuuming performance, and the wide 28" cleaning path gives maximum cleaning coverage in the minimal amount of time.



## Chariot™ iGloss Burnisher



The industries first stand up burnisher, Chariot significantly increases productivity and cleaning quality by reducing operator fatigue. Why walk, when you can step to a Chariot? The iGloss has a 2000 RPM Flexible pad driver system that provides a very high gloss. The burnishing shroud is engineered to increase air flow and lift dust from floor. The Chariot's control panel is intuitively organized and easy to operate while steering. An ultra-light turning radius enables Chariot to run around in five foot aisles with room to spare.

## King Cobra Series Heated Carpet Extractors



Performance and innovation describe the King Cobra 500. Fully adjustable 0-500 psi gives the King Cobra the power and performance of a truck-mount. Exclusive patent pending, 25' solution & vacuum hose reel provides easy hose management. Solid state heat management system provides instant heat to 212° F at the wand tip and is fully adjustable and a 16 gallon tank capacity provides longer run times. A patented circuit locator prevents blown circuits, soft start 7.2 three stage vacuum with electronic shut off, wand holder and chemical storage tray make the King Cobra the King of its class.



## Clearly Better Protector



Clearly Better Concrete & Masonry Protector seals and protects all minerals surfaces-concrete, brick quarry tile, marble or granite. Against virtually any oil or water based stain and prolongs the life of your concrete or mineral surfaces.

What is even better than crystal clear glass, windshields and mirrors? Glass, windshields and mirrors protected by Clearly Better glass and mirror protector that are easy to clean and resist scratches and smudges!

## KIDS - "Key Illness Defense System" Kit

Handwashing is the cornerstone of infection control.

To encourage better compliance with handwashing guidelines and increase handwashing frequency, the Kutol "Key Illness Defense System" (KIDS) has been developed. The kit includes information as well as wall charts, a teacher's handbook, and other helpful tools.



## EZ Foam Soap System

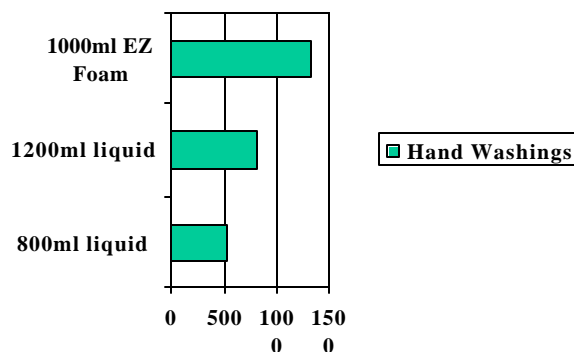
EZ Foam features a large, easy-to-use push pad located at the top rather than the bottom of the dispenser. The push pad placement lets users see the amount of product being dispensed into their hand, thus reducing waste caused by over-dispensing. EZ Foam is also ADA compliant, requiring one hand and less than 5 lbs. of pressure to dispense product. EZ Foam dispenses .75mL of rich foam per push vs. 1.5mL for most bag-in-box liquid systems. Assuming one dose per hand washing, EZ Foam will provide twice the number of hand washings per 100mL bag. By placing the dispenser pump at the top of the dispenser rather than the bottom, the risk of leaking at the valve is eliminated. For added security, EZ Foam dispensers feature a locking option. Dispensers are shipped in the manual, no-key-required mode, but are easily converted to the keyed locking mode. The dispensers can be converted from non-locking to locking and back.



**E-Z Foam Soap  
from one push**



**Traditional liquid soap  
from one push**



## Classifying Disinfectants

A single bacterium can become 16 million bacteria in just eight hours and — in an era of SARS and other public health concerns — disinfectant products are also multiplying: germicidal sales are projected to be more than \$1 billion this year with 8,000 disinfectant products now registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The EPA closely regulates germicidal product claims, particularly where the target germs cause human illness. Since all germ killers are considered pesticides, the EPA requires testing to certify manufacturers' claims for safety and effectiveness.

EPA has set up test protocols for three disease-causing or pathogenic germs: *Staphylococcus aureus* (or "Staph"), *Salmonella choleraesuis*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. Disinfectants that kill all three of these bacteria are called "Hospital disinfectants." Products that kill only Staph and Salmonella are called "General disinfectants," and products which kill either one or the other — Staph or Salmonella — are referred to as "Limited disinfectants."

Product effectiveness is gauged by its ability to kill certain benchmark microbes. For example, if a germicide kills *Pseudomonas*, it's assumed that all weaker microbes will also be killed. There are no specific EPA-certified claims for killing some known disease-causing germs, but it's commonly assumed that if *Pseudomonas* dies, so does a slew of less-virile microbes.

*Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (the bacterium that causes Tuberculosis) — even tougher to kill than *Pseudomonas* — is another and more demanding benchmark. OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogens Standard 29 CFR 1910.1030 recommends a tuberculocidal disinfectant for surfaces contaminated with blood/body fluids.

Interestingly, even though Tuberculosis is not transmitted by surfaces, it is used as a benchmark for the effectiveness of hard surface disinfectants. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

Potency against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* has been recognized as a substantial benchmark. However, the tuberculocidal claim is used only as a benchmark to measure germicidal potency. Tuberculosis is not transmitted via environmental surfaces but rather by the airborne route. Accordingly, use of such products on environmental surfaces plays no role in preventing the spread of tuberculosis. However, because mycobacteria have among the highest intrinsic levels of resistance among the vegetative bacteria, viruses, and fungi, any germicide with a tuberculocidal claim on the label is considered capable of inactivating a broad spectrum of pathogens, including such less-resistant organisms as bloodborne pathogens (e. g., HBV, HCV, and HIV). It is this broad-spectrum capability, rather than the product's specific potency against mycobacteria, that is the basis for protocols and regulations dictating use of tuberculocidal chemicals for surface disinfection.

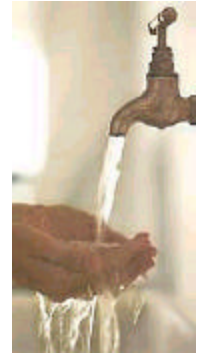
## Is your water quality suitable for building cleaning?

### Water Safe

The water quality at your facility greatly affects your ability to provide clean buildings. If you're aware of water's properties and the way these properties affect the cleaning process, your water can be an asset to your facility rather than a liability.

Buildings obtain their water from a variety of sources. Different sources can provide significantly different qualities of water.

Variables such as water hardness, alkalinity, total dissolved solids (TDS) and supply source all affect your staff's ability to clean a floor or carpet. Understanding your water's quality and the impact it can have on your buildings can help you optimize the performance of your cleaning/maintenance staff and the products they are using.



### Check Your Source Water



Water quality varies greatly depending on the source. As precipitation lands on different areas, it dissolves and begins to carry with it a variety of materials which alter its quality. When water eventually finds its way to lakes, streams or ground water reservoirs, these dissolved substances become a part of our water supply sources.

Every cleaning/maintenance manager should be aware of the sources of their water supply and be familiar with the quality of the water they use. Those who receive their water from large lakes or reservoirs can usually count on fairly consistent water quality.

However, buildings with a municipal supply that is drawn from several wells in different areas can see significant changes in water quality. Even those whose source is a single municipal or private well may see seasonal or periodic variations in water quality.

### Hard Water's Problems

Hard water is the most common and significant component of water quality. It contains water-soluble minerals that impede the cleaning process.

Though the calcium, magnesium and other minerals that cause hardness are water-soluble, they prefer to combine with other materials such as soaps and some detergent ingredients. This causes the detergents to precipitate out of solution. Water hardness steals the cleaning power your operation paid for, requiring you to increase detergent use and therefore increase your costs.



Water hardness can, however, be removed. A water softener removes calcium and magnesium and replaces them with a more soluble substance, sodium.

If your water contains over 3 grains per gallon (gpg) of hardness, the water softening system will usually pay for itself by enabling you to reduce your detergent costs. Water with zero gpg is recommended for optimal cleaning performance.

Although other minerals such as iron, manganese and trace minerals can also cause hardness, they are more likely to cause staining problems than affect detergent consumption.

## pH, Alkalinity

Other chemical properties of water quality that are significant to cleaning professionals are the pH and alkalinity or acidity of the water.

If your source water is low in pH, the water's acidity can neutralize the cleaning power of some of your alkaline detergents. In such cases, cleaning workers may have to use detergents at stronger dilutions to achieve the same performance as those with neutral or more alkaline water sources.

On the other hand, those who use low-pH detergents and have highly alkaline water (high pH) may have to use these products in stronger solutions than cleaning operations with less alkaline water.



## TDS and Spotting

The sum of all the dissolved solid material in the water is called total dissolved solids, or TDS, and is generally measured in parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L). An extremely high TDS can affect cleaning regardless of the type of dissolved materials.

The effect of a high TDS is different from that of water hardness. Where hardness actually removes detergent ingredients, TDS is more of an interference to detergents' operation. As an analogy, consider how you would walk across an empty room, as opposed to a room filled with people. In either case, you can cross the room, but it will take you longer if there are a lot of people (interference) to slow you down.

It is difficult to say at what level TDS becomes a problem. Where detergent performance is critical, a cleaning operation would usually get better performance using water with zero TDS, but some operations may be able to clean effectively with TDS levels over 500 ppm.

The problem most commonly associated with TDS is spotting. Any solids that are in the last water to touch the surface of the object being cleaned will still be there when the water evaporates. These remaining solids will leave spots. The higher the TDS, the worse the spotting.

## Spot-Free?

"Spot-free" water can be produced by the installation of distillation, deionization or reverse osmosis water treatment systems at your facility.

Because distillation doesn't produce water quickly enough for large-scale applications, facility managers may opt for either deionization or reverse osmosis systems. Suppliers, manufacturers or water treatment dealers can help determine which system is right for you.

Deionization is efficient and cost-effective, but requires handling some hazardous chemicals to regenerate the ion exchange media. Reverse osmosis is economical and doesn't require chemicals, but is slower than deionization and requires an additional holding tank to store processed water.

Like any other aspect of your operation, information and understanding are the key to getting optimal performance from your facility's water. If you obtain water from a municipal source, it can usually supply you with a complete water analysis report. If you have a private well, there are many public and private laboratories that can run a few standard tests to help evaluate your water quality situation.

Finally, make sure that you work with your equipment and chemical suppliers to help you better understand your water quality. This will help ensure that you achieve maximum performance from your cleaning equipment and products, which should ultimately lead to cleaner buildings and happier customers.



By Rick Martens

## Hazardous Chemical Definitions

**Poison Gas** ----- Extremely dangerous poisons, highly toxic poisonous gases or liquids - a very small amount of the gas, or vapor of the liquid, mixed with air is dangerous to life.

**Poison** ---- Less dangerous poison , toxic - Substances, liquid or solids (including pastes, and semi -solids) so toxic to man that they are a hazard to health during transportation.

**Flammable Gas** ----- A gas that can burn with the evolution of heat and a flame. Flammable compressed gas is any compressed gas of which: (1) a mixture of 13 % or less (by volume) with air is flammable, or (2) the flammable range with air is under 12%.

**Non-Flammable Gas** ----- Any compressed gas other than a flammable compressed gas

**Flammable Liquid** ----- Any liquids having a flash point below 100 degrees F (37.8 degrees Q, except any mixture having components with flash points of 100 degrees F (37.8 degrees Q, or higher, the total of which makes up 99 % or more of the total volume of the mixture.

**Combustible Liquid** ----- Any liquid having a flash point at or above 100 degrees F (37.8 degrees Q, but below 200 degrees F (93.3 degrees Q, except any mixture having components with flash points of 200 degrees F (93.3 degrees Q, or higher, the total volume of which make up 99 % or more of the volume of the mixture

**Corrosives - Liquid and Solid** ----- Any liquid or solid that causes visible destruction or irreversible damage to human skin tissue, Also, it may be a liquid that has a severe corrosion rate on steel.

**Irritating Material - Liquid and Solid** ----- A liquid or solid substance which, upon contact with fire or air, gives off dangerous or intensely irritating fumes.

**Explosive and Blasting Agent** (Not Including Class C Explosives) ----- "Explosive" means a chemical that causes a sudden, almost instantaneous release of pressure, gas, and heat when subjected to sudden shock, pressure, or high temperature. "Blasting Agent" is a material designed for blasting. It must be so insensitive that there is very little probability of (1) accidental explosion or (2) going from burning to detonation.

**Radioactive Material - (Yellow 1H Label)** ----- Any material, or combination of materials, that spontaneously gives off ionizing radiation.

**Flammable Solid (Dangerous When Wet)** ----- Water Reactive Material (Solid) - Any solid substance (including sludges and pastes) which react with water by igniting or giving off dangerous quantities of flammable or toxic gases.

**Flammable Solid** ----- A solid, other than a blasting agent, or explosive, that is liable to cause fire through friction, absorption of moisture, spontaneous chemical change, or retained heat from manufacturing or processing, or which can be ignited readily and when ignited burns so vigorously and persistently as to create a serious hazard,

**Spontaneously Combustible Material** ----- Spontaneously Combustible Material (Solid) - A solid substance (including sludges and pastes) which may undergo spontaneous heating or self-burning under normal transportation conditions. These materials may increase in temperature and ignite when exposed to air.

**Oxidizer** ----- A chemical that initiates or promotes combustion in other materials, thereby causing fire either of itself or through the release of oxygen or other gases. Example being: Chlorate, permanganate, inorganic peroxide, or a nitrate, that yields oxygen readily.

**Organic Peroxide** ----- Means an organic compound that contains the bivalent -O-O structure and which may be considered to be a structural derivative of hydrogen peroxide where one or both of the hydrogen atoms has been replaced by an organic radical.

**Carcinogen** ----- A chemical is considered to be a carcinogen if It has been evaluated by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), and found to be a carcinogen or potential carcinogen; or bullet It is listed as a carcinogen or potential carcinogen in the Annual Report on Carcinogens published by the National Toxicology Program (NTP) (latest edition); or bullet It is regulated by OSHA as a carcinogen.



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