

How is the Recession Impacting the Cleaning and Consumables in Your Facility?

“Survey Says: Recession is not impacting the transition to green cleaning”

» By Arely Castellón - SparkleTeam

There seems to be an increased understanding by end-users, distributors, manufacturers, and building service providers alike that Green Cleaning ultimately translates into increased value and benefits for consumers, which in turn can lower operating costs. DestinationGreen, a monthly newsletter, recently surveyed 5000 subscribers who indicated that the recession will not pose a serious blow to the “Greening” of the professional cleaning industry. In simple terms, substituting glass cleaners with products without ammonia, will still clean, and will not harm the environment. Eliminating or minimizing the use of aerosol sprays will reduce the VOC’s in the air and substituting with quality spray bottle product alternatives is best. Hydrogen peroxide based cleaners are the top favorite multi-cleaners and disinfectants, reducing toxicity. Using micro fiber actually reduces the quantities of chemicals used, which provides further savings. Combine the improved technology with lower product pricing, and the long-term effects are very Green!



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“Less Germs, Less Illnesses”

Going Green also means reducing waste and while it may or may not be the primary reason for change, the number of buildings with touch-free restroom dispensers and products are increasing. Given everyone’s concern about the spread of germs and illness, touch-free dispensers help minimize the spread of bacteria and viruses, while reducing waste.

Most touch-free soap dispensers work with a concentrated foam soap that reduces the amount of soap used for hand washing by as much as 60%, as reported by various soap manufacturers. Touch free water faucets reduce water waste and just like the touch-free foam dispensers project a “clean” image, which is always desirable in restrooms. Add auto-flush toilets and water-free urinals, and the facilities are high-tech!

Controlled paper dispensers have been shown to reduce paper usage, and the touch-free versions prevent the spread of germs. While the bottom line is often determined by the number of hand dries received for the money, certainly there is a savings when it is no longer possible to take two, three or more folded towels. However, the real money saver and germ killer are the new hand dryers on the market. New models are priced from \$300 to \$1300 and when compared to the pricing of paper towels at about \$25 per case, the savings are quick and real. One case of paper towels per week would cost \$1300 per year. Compare that with a top of the line dryer that also kills germs at \$1300 per unit, and the up-front expense suddenly doesn’t seem that high.

In summary, revisiting the topic of hygiene and/or green facilities is worth the research. There are great solutions available at great prices that will be noticed and appreciated by tenants. At SparkleTeam, we appreciate the fact that minor changes can make a major difference.