

Common Misconceptions in Facility Cleaning:

This article draws your attention how to evaluate factual information while contracting or purchasing cleaning chemicals for relevant vendor or companies.



From:- Altret Industries P.Ltd.

Preface

There are many misconception related to cleaning task and about cleaning chemicals. Is the facility or part of facility adequately clean? We are very obvious taken cleaning job granted. Same way while selecting cleaning chemicals we leave the decision on cleaning contractors or just go to the very costly product or vice versa select the cheapest chemicals available in market. What are the misconceptions believed by industries and the fact about these misconceptions are described as per following:





Misconception : If a room, office, washrooms looks clean and smells well than it is clean.

Fact: Looking clean is a doesn't means that it hygienic or all infectious germs kills and safe. Just because the area smells flowery and fresh, it already means that the smell may deodorise or masked and not on the actual cleanliness of the area. Improper cleaning weather form cleaning service provider or because of poor quality chemicals that leave hot spots and touch points germy puts people at risk by creating a transportation of disease causing bacteria and germs from one person to another.

Note: TRENDS products contains no VOC or very less in few formulations.

Advance Disinfectants and active biocides are part of the formulation and All products having certified, tested for various infectious germs, bacteria.

Misconception : The hand wash is thick and can further dilute to minimise the consumption.

Fact: While that is true that Hand wash are thick and dense ,but the practice to dilute the ready to use hand wash is a very dangerous practice. Mind well people are washing their hands to kill the germs and is a too obvious job. Proper quantity, contact timing and proper hand wash technique or procedure play a vital role to kill infectious germs. The property owner should monitor any ill practice carried out by the service provider to dilute the product to save money with the cost of health risk of people using rest rooms.

Misconception : Using Any Cleaner, germs is killed.

Fact: To get rid of disease causing germs effectively and efficiently, the right chemicals must be used for the right job. Janitors should follow manufacture's directions of use. Any specific cleaning chemicals require specific dwell times; this is the amount of time the product must cling wet to a surface to effectively kill most germs. Its Chemical Companies responsibilities to provide effective training to janitors for the right application of products. Any Deviation in usage puts you and your building's occupants at high risk.

Misconception : Poor cleaning might be unacceptable, but it doesn't adversely affect overall business practice.

Fact: Actually The role of Proper Cleaning is very vital and obviously It impacts your business! In fact, inadequate restroom cleaning can have an impact on productivity, performance, involvement, absenteeism, quality of work, employee retention and employee health, Cost to company and more.

Misconception - Everything is written on contract So I am helpless to command Cleaning activities.

Fact: You have to review contract terms and you should monitor the cleaning task as per desired and as per needed. Have you checked your contractors provide you same chemicals, written in contract? Have you checked inward and outward entry of genuine chemicals being used? It was observed that contractor's usage substandard chemicals to save money or try to convince the customer that such substandard are okay with quality. You don't have to put up with bad service and poor performance. Cleaning Service Contracts allow for a customer to break the agreement if they are unsatisfied just by giving (normally) 4 weeks written notice. Don't fall for the bullying tactics many companies will use to keep your business.

Misconception - "It's in the Specification" I have to follow written SOP or Specification which was written down before decade!!

Having a cleaning specification that doesn't meet your needs by engaging a company to give you a basic job, when what you really need is something more detailed

Be realistic about what you and your office need when it comes to cleaning. It can be counterproductive to skimp and you will never be happy with the outcomes. Identify areas of need within your office.

Evaluate the product being used. Within decades, there are so many changes in cleaning techniques and cleaning chemicals. More advance More competent cleaning chemicals are available in the market, Following and using traditional chemicals which was written down is Specification or SOP is bad practice. Instead of blindly using traditional products you should evaluate the best products according to your need.

Misconception : Anyone Can Do Cleaning Job, No Skill required

Fact: Skill, Knowledge and Experience require for any cleaning standard cleaning practice.

Cleaning is an extremely important operational activity of any facility to provide customers and staff with a helpful environment. Cleaning is crucial during the any infectious pandemic to help prevent the spread of viruses and reduce the number of infected people. Knowhow of proper disinfection procedures and best regular cleaning practices can help to prevent the spread of germs in your facility. Janitors should be trained and skilled in handling , cleaning equipment and proper use of the cleaning and disinfecting products they are using.

Misconception : Bleach & Phenyl are Best Cleaning Agent.

Truth:

This common misconception applies to cleaning across many companies, mainly because of the ease of accessibility to these chemicals and they are available at cheap cost.

Bleach can kill germs and brighten stains quickly to give the sense of 'clean', but it does not break down dirt build-up on surfaces. Chlorine bleach is an extreme health hazard. If you drink it, there may be burns on your mouth or throat. You can also feel an irritation, feel sick, or vomit. Also, it isn't compatible with acidic or alkaline solutions, because if it's mixed with sodium hydrochloride; it can create chlorine gas which is very dangerous. Chlorine gas can; burn your throat and lungs, irritate your eyes and nose, make it harder for you to breathe, and coughing. If the chlorine gas is even worse, it could cause for your breathing to stop. It could also give you blisters and make your skin feel like it's burning.

In the case of Phenyls, it's having some disinfection but they do not clean adequately. Besides, it leaves behind a hospital-like smell. On the other hand, disinfectant spreads a whiff of freshness and lingering

fragrance all around. It's also provide a sticky surface because of oily nature , hence more dirt and germs are allow to stick on surface. Phenolic compound is also having heal hazard and most of the scholars denied to use the Phenyl as a cleaner or disinfectant.

Misconception : A Company having GREEN LABEL Certificate is the Best and All green cleaning products are safe to use

GREEN LABEL Certificate is provided to individual product not to a company. It means the company claiming that they have Green certificate one have to check which specific product they have a certificate? The products which are being used is really Green Label certified or not.

A Green label ensures you that the product doesn't contain specific hazardous ingredients, It is possible that many Indian companies who are not afforded the cost of the certificate may have far better products than Green Label certified products.

Moreover, A green label does not necessarily mean that the cleaner is safe to use on all surfaces. Also, not all greens are safe to use for your home as well as around your children. Thus, it is still best to read the label of the cleaner before using it. Not all products on the 'green' corner of the local retail store are safe. Thus, it is still best to make it habit to read the label of the cleaning products you buy. Even though not all ingredients are indicated on the product label, you will still get a good idea on what the product is made of and you can judge whether the product is safe to use or not.

Conclusion: A Proactive approach, Well Analytical skills and continual study about cleaning techniques, cleaning chemicals, Hazard assessment are required for those who are in facility cleaning job whether you are a manager or not. It is best to learn more about misconceptions like written above and make it a habit to do your research first before trying new cleaning methods and cleaners. When you know the proper way to do the cleaning in different areas in your facility, the task becomes easier and safer for you.

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