

New study analyses airborne microbe dispersal of hand drying methods

New research commissioned by the European Tissue Symposium (ETS) and carried out by the University of Westminster has concluded that drying hands with single-use towels shows a lower level of airborne microbe dispersal and contamination.

The study looked at the potential for microbial contamination from hand drying and the potential risks for airborne microbe dispersal, particularly if hand washing is sub optimal. Four different hand drying methods and three different test models were used to determine differences between the drying methods and their capacity to disperse microbes on the hands of users to other occupants of public washrooms and into the washroom environment.



Paper towels, a textile roller towel, a warm air dryer and a jet air dryer were compared using three different test models: acid indicator with lemon juice, yeast, and

bacterial transmission from hands when washed without soap. The peer-reviewed study was published in the March 2015 edition of the *Journal of Hospital Infection*.

A jet air dryer dispersed liquid from users' hands further and over a greater range - up to 1.5 metres - than other hand drying methods. The jet air dryer also led to the greatest dispersal of microbes into the air at both near and far distances for each of the tested models. Levels recorded at the drying device revealed an average of 59.5 colonies of yeast for the jet air dryer compared with an average of just 2.2 colonies of yeast for paper towels.

At a distance of 0.2 metres jet air dryers resulted in 67 colonies compared with only 6.5 for paper towels. At a distance of 1.5 metres the jet air dryer recorded 11.5 colonies of yeast compared to zero for paper towels.

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CHSA launches accreditation scheme for industrial cotton mops

The Cleaning & Hygiene Supplier's Association (CHSA) has launched the Manufacturing Standards Accreditation Scheme for Cotton Mops. Its purpose is to drive up standards in the manufacture, description and labelling of mops.

Mike Stubbs, chairman of the CHSA Accreditation Schemes, explained: "Buyers of cotton mops want to be able to quickly and easily buy the right mop for the job in hand. This new scheme will help them do exactly that, by defining and standardising long established terms at the same time as specifying specific mop sizes for

particular applications."

Founder members of the CHSA's Manufacturing Standards Accreditation Scheme for Industrial Cotton Mops are Charles Bentley & Son, Ramon Hygiene Products, Robert Scott & Son, Yorkshire Cleaning Fabrics (YCF) and SYR. In addition to the initial audit, Martin Yates, the Manufacturing Standards Accreditation Schemes' independent auditor, will audit each scheme member twice a year.



The new Accreditation Scheme covers Socket, Clip and Kentucky mops. It requires that:

The size of mops within the scope of the Standard shall be determined and indicated by the weight of yarn making up the mop head; All mops

within the Standard be labelled with the mop size and / or the minimum weight of yarn; and The Accreditation Scheme mark must be included on the labels of mops

within the Standard. The new Accreditation Scheme complements the existing, proven schemes for Soft Tissue and Plastic Refuse Sacks.

"These Schemes have made a very valuable contribution to the driving up of standards in the industry," Mike Stubbs continued. "Too many organisations cut corners and sell product that is deficient or not fit for purpose. The stamp of the relevant Accreditation Scheme on the label gives buyers the confidence that they will not be short changed and are instead buying an appropriate product from a reputable business."

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Events diary

To view more upcoming events visit www.cleaning-matters.co.uk

Pulire
www.pulire-it.com

Verona, Italy
Tel: +39 02 67 44 58 1

19th to 21st May 2015

Facilities Show
www.facilitiesshow.com

ExCel, London, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7921 8535

16th to 18th June 2015

AHCP Conference & Exhibition
www.ahcpconference.co.uk

East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham, UK
Tel: 0844 571 7247

23rd to 25th June 2015

RWM
www.rwmexhibition.com

NEC, Birmingham, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 203 033 2500

15th to 17th September

CMS
www.cms-berlin.com

Berlin, Germany
Tel: +49 (0)30 3038-2035

22nd to 25th September

ProClean Ireland
www.procleanireland.eu

Green Isle Hotel, Dublin
Tel: +44 (0)1625 426054

29th to 30th September