

Top reasons TO SHIFT FROM A VISUAL CLEAN TO A DEEP CLEAN

BY MURRAY MCDONALD, DIRECTOR OF DUPLEX CLEANING MACHINES

Cleaning is no longer about what you can or cannot see. In the last 10 years, there has been a great shift to ensure that cleaning is not just about the “presentation” of an accommodation facility. However, when it comes to the health and safety of guests, visitors and staff it is more about what you can’t see that matters to the outcome of a cleaning process.

A high standard of cleaning for the accommodation industry takes into account hygiene, sanitation and a reduction in chemical use. All of these factors can’t be done with the simple mop, bucket, rag and detergents. It requires a deep clean of all surfaces, pores, crevices, grout and fibres.

WHAT IS A DEEP CLEAN?

Firstly, it’s important to understand the definition of what a deep clean is. In my 25 years of providing accommodation cleaning solutions, I refer to a deep clean as being closely related to a microbial clean.

A microbial clean refers to a clean that gets rid of all bacteria and fungi, and anything that can harbour the build up of these unwanted germs.

Below are key reasons why the accommodation industry is shifting from a visual clean to a deep clean.

1. PROVIDES A HYGIENIC CLEAN

A hygienic clean occurs when you are killing all bacteria and ensuring that the post clean environment isn’t a breeding ground for future bacteria build-up.

When surfaces aren’t properly cleaned, it results in the creation of “biofilm”. Biofilm is when bacteria stick together and create film like layer. Many chemicals are unable to penetrate through biofilm. The use of chemical can also lead to accumulation of biofilm as it can produce a sticky surface for bacteria to stick to.

A key way to penetrate through biofilm and kill bacteria is through using high temperature steam vapour at +160 degrees Celsius. Also, it’s important to ensure that any steam cleaning method used produces a minimum of 6 per cent moisture content. The low moisture content ensures



surfaces are dry rather than damp, which significantly reduces bacteria growth.

Steam is commonly used as a cleaning method of choice in the healthcare and food and beverage industries because of its bacteria killing abilities.

2. A CHEMICAL-FREE SYSTEM

A chemical-free system, such as using high temperature steam, allows for zero chemicals use, whilst achieving a high standard of hygiene. A chemical-free system normally

includes the use of steam equipment, microfibre and minimal water.

Not only is going chemical-free better for your cleaning outcomes, but it also reduces the risk of allergic reactions to chemicals among guests, improves air quality and reduces staff OH&S issues.

Another big factor to support going chemical-free is the positive reputation boost it can give to your accommodation facility. The accommodation industry is fast seeing the importance of supporting environmentally friendly practices as part of their corporate social responsibility.

3. LESS LABOUR INTENSIVE

Good quality steam machines will actually do the work for you. They will mechanically agitate to scrub a floor surface, it will use steam vapour to eliminate bacteria and should come with a range of tools for walls, grout and hard to reach area cleaning.

In summary, a good quality steam system will replace manual scrubbing, constant bending, lifting and overall physical force. Remember; let the machine work for you, not you work for the machine.

4. HIGH TOUCH AREAS ARE CLEANED

Cleaning high touch areas are critical to a deep clean process. Missing or overlooking these touch points will only hinder the efforts of your other surface cleans.

High touch areas are surfaces that are regularly touched or receive regular contact. Examples of touch surfaces can include door knobs, light switches, bathroom taps, railings and telephones. These types of surfaces are the most likely to possess bacteria, grime, dirt and oils. ■

Murray McDonald is Director of Duplex Cleaning Machines and has over 25 years experience in improving accommodation cleaning standards through steam and chemical-free cleaning solutions. Visit www.duplexcleaning.com.au.



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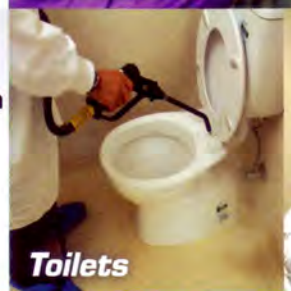


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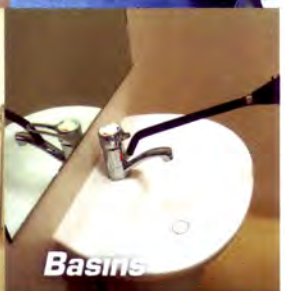
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