

Campus Wide Cleaning and Disinfecting Program

January 25, 2022

The Campus Community,

During the past few weeks, our evening Custodial teams have been busy sanitizing the more than 900 office spaces on campus. Trained Custodial teams have systematically moved from building to building, office to office, applying disinfectant to high touch areas and hard surfaces with virucide and electrostatic sprayers. To date, we have successfully treated 812 office spaces. We are on target to complete the entire campus by February 4, 2022. Currently, we are working in the Admin and P buildings. The following buildings have been completed: WAC, Phys Ed, Library, MAC, A&S, U bldg., Academic Village, T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6 and T8.

At the onset of the Coronavirus lockdown in March 2020, our Custodial teams have been utilizing electrostatic sprayers along with an EPA approved virucide. Electrostatic sprayers have proved to be an essential tool in Covid-19 disinfection and prevention. They are extremely effective in dispersing disinfectant more evenly and completely while using less chemical product. As a result, we have been able to disinfect larger areas more efficiently as well as save time, and improve our disinfecting protocols. The brand we are using is the Victory VP200ESK electrostatic handheld sprayer in conjunction with EPA approved Ecolab Peroxide Multi Surface Cleaner and Disinfectant. EPA# 1677-238.

What does "electrostatic mean?"

Electrostatic is based on the principle that opposites attract. The sprayer works by placing a positive charge on the liquid disinfectant. When sprayed on negatively charged surfaces (as most surfaces are), the disinfectant clings and coats target surfaces. This results in greater coverage and a more even spread to include undersides and backsides of surfaces.

What does it mean to place a "charge" into the liquid?

As the liquid exits the spray nozzle, it passes through a charging ring. This process gives the liquid a positive charge.

How long does the disinfectant take to dry?

Because the disinfectant liquid is atomized into a fine mist, there is very little drying time and no wiping required. The droplets are light enough to spread evenly on surfaces and not evaporate in the air, yet heavy enough that they don't drift away or saturate surfaces.

How long does electrostatic spray last?

The kill time for our electrostatically charged virucide is approximately 2 minutes. The liquid will then evaporate and leave a disinfected surface.

When is the electrostatic sprayer used?

Custodial teams utilize the sprayers mainly in the evening, after 10:00 p.m., when there is very little campus activity. Trained Custodians disinfect classrooms, restrooms, elevators and

other high touch areas throughout the campus, always following the manufacturers recommendation. Custodians also use the sprayer when treating an area of campus where someone tested positive for Covid-19. For this type of disinfection, our teams adhere to our cleaning protocols found in our CUNY approved campus reopening plan.

What surfaces are treated?

Target areas for treatment are high touch areas such as desktops, door knobs, chair armrests, file cabinets, ledges, countertops, light switch covers, window sills and walls. The treatment is not applied to electronics, computer components, paper, porous materials or personal items. The disinfectant is only applied to hard surfaces that are considered “high touch”.

As we prepare for more campus activity, our B&G staff continues to work hard to ensure a safe and clean campus for all.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Ed Rios
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