

The Performance Reporter

JANITORIAL ♦ FACILITIES ♦ LABOR ♦ GROUNDS ♦ SPACE PLANNING ♦ BUILD OUTS

What's Inside This Issue?

Page 1

- Ever heard of a self cleaning building?
- Double check that green cleaner bottle!

Page 2

- The \$50 Newsletter Quiz.
- Cleaning Tip – Removing Wax from Fabric

Page 3

- Pro Advice – Carpet Cleaning Methods

Introducing the Self-Cleaning Building !

First it was ovens, and more recently litter boxes... but have you ever heard of a self-cleaning building?

An aluminum producer out of Pittsburgh, PA called Alcoa has come up with a potential solution for that most unpleasant of man-made environmental issue - smog. Alcoa's "Reynobond with Ecoclean" is an exterior building panel that was designed to be both self cleaning, and to purify the air around it from such pollutants as decomposing smog, dirt, diesel fumes, and all the other "nasties"

that hover around a building's surfaces. Alcoa claims that 10,000 square feet of the panels have the equivalent air-cleansing power of 80 trees! Talk about taking the green out of "GREEN."

How does it work? The panel features a titanium dioxide coating (that's the EcoClean part) on top of a pre-painted aluminum surface (that's the Reynobond part). When sunlight hits the panel it acts as a catalyst to break down the pollutants on the aluminum panel into harmless particles that can

be washed away by rain. Even better, since the Reynobond surface is super hydrophilic (which means it "likes" water), the water particles don't bead on top of it, but rather they collapse and run down the side of the building carrying all of the pollutants with them. Even better is that it only takes a small amount of rain, or the right amount of humidity can have the cleaning effect on the surface.

Continued on last page



Company Highlights:

"Employee of the Month"..... 2

Message from the President.....2

New Business Activity..... 2

Using Green Cleaning Products? Are You *Sure*?

Many of us have done it. You're cruising down the aisles of your favorite grocery or big box store looking for a seemingly easy way to save the environment, so you reach for that bottle of "eco-friendly" cleaner, right? But it may come as a shock to learn that many of those earthy chemical-free products might not be so great after all!

According to recent study by a team of researchers at the National Meeting & Exposition of the American Chemical Society some "green" products often contain a surprising amount

of petroleum!

Now it's entirely possibly the cleaner creators have no idea their product contains these less eco-friendly carbons. How you ask? Well oddly enough "green" isn't defined using industry or even government standards. Because of this a manufacturer is free to stake the "green" status of its products on any number of claims.

One common example of this is by proclaiming a product to be petrochemical free. Cleaning agents

typically contain a lot of carbon, an element derived either from renewable plant sources or harmful petroleum resources. A petrochemical-free product presumably contains no carbon derived from petroleum sources, and is thus better for the environment. However the study found that while the plant-based carbon content for the products tested was higher, it was inconsistent with the products' claims.

Continued on last page



Performance Recognizes its Employees!



Jason Smigiel
Wins the employee award and a bonus check for \$250

Performance congratulates
Jason Smigiel

Jason I has been employed with Performance Environmental Services for almost a year now and in this short period has become a great asset to the Western Mass team. Jason was receiving accolades of his performance almost immediately for improving the appearance of the facilities he serviced and improving the moral of the employees.

Since then Jason has been providing support for Facility and Special Service teams assisting with office renovations, post construction cleaning and floor care. He successfully takes the lead on projects, seeing them to a successful finish on time and on budget, despite such obstacles as working around ongoing trades activities. Of course customer satisfaction is key, and Jason manages to help Performance hit the

mark with a customer who is very happy with the results of their new office space and happy they were able to move in on time. Jason's attention to detail, great work ethic, ability to communicate, follow directions and professionalism has helped our team to be successful. He sets an example for others to follow and ensures the confidence of management and most importantly our customers that they are in good hands.

Cleaning Tips!

Candle Wax?

"To remove wax from carpeting or other fabric, first scrape away any excess. Then, place a brown paper bag over the wax and run a warm iron over the bag. The wax will melt right into the bag!



**2 Gateway Blvd
East Granby, CT**

Message from the President

Leveraging Technology to Support Customers

Approaching our second anniversary of independent ownership I continue to seek better ways of delivering our services - Recently Performance Environmental decided to invest in a new technology in order to continue supporting our customers as efficiently as possible and foster our goal of continuous improvement.

This state-of-the-art Management Information

System, coupled with time and attendance software designed specifically for our services industry will be supported by internal procedural and operational policies to help ensure Performance continues to deliver what you have come to expect. This system will further strengthen security and accountability in all accounts where implemented, ultimately helping Performance serve you better. Believe it or not, even the cleaning industry offers new technology, and the

"TEAM" software system is it when it comes to security, time keeping and personnel management. Let's face it, the toughest part of our business is managing our huge labor force; it is the engine that drives our customer service. I'm happy and proud to be moving forward July 1st with implementation of these systems. Thank you all for your interest and support!

Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Steven B. Sadler

Watch Us Grow! Recent Business Activity

Performance Environmental Services is happy to announce that it continues to expand thanks to the hard work of its sales, operations and administration personnel.

Recent new business activity includes...

Cleaning Services Provided for:

345 North Main St, West Hartford, CT

84 North Main Street Branford CT

2 Gateway Boulevard East Granby CT

Tenant space at 580 Cottage Grove rd

245 Amity Rd Woodbridge CT

Performance Environmental Services, LLC

BRANCH OFFICE LOCATIONS

New Haven, CT

South Windsor, CT

East Providence, RI

Springfield, MA

Toll Free 1-800-899-3597



We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.performancesvc.com

\$50 Newsletter Quiz

Try your hand at a short Industry Related quiz for a chance to win a \$50 gift card.

Guaranteed Winner Each Issue!

Find it online at:

www.performancesvc.com/quiz



The Self Cleaning Building... cont'd

While smog may not exactly be a front page headline issue for the Connecticut area, the application of this technology represents a tremendously forward thinking breakthrough in the "greening" of our planet in general. As the primary component of smog, NOx (or nitrogen oxide) not only makes buildings dirty, but it also threatens the quality of the air we breathe. And while most "issues of the

day" are tackled in a reactive manner, the widespread use and application of this technology could actually serve to stay ahead of the curve when it comes to air pollution and smog, perhaps even reversing the effects of years of pollution.

What about the cost? While it's true that the Reynobond with Ecoclean panels cost 4% to 5% more

than their non-smog-eating counterparts, they end up saving money in the long run because they can cut a building's exterior maintenance costs by up to half in most cases. More information can be found at the company's website www.alcoa.com

Original online article by Ariel Schwartz, 5/9/11
www.fastcompany.com

Trade Secrets: Pro Advice – Carpet "Shampoo"

We've all heard it before.. "Clean my carpets please" ... or "Shampoo my carpets please"... But what exactly are we asking for when we say this? That's a good question, and one you really should be asking your service provider.

Carpet maintenance has come a long way over the years, and even if you're cleaning service is using methods from just 5 years

ago you could actually be unknowingly shortening the life of your carpet.

Fact is most people don't have their carpets cleaned nearly as often as they should to begin with (a good program involves quarterly service for normal traffic) so you should make sure the service you do get is appropriate. Even "truck mounted" systems often used recycled (dirty) water

as cleaning solution. Make sure you hire a professional that uses either a *clean water system* or a *low moisture system*... and ask for a detailed explanation of the method they use. Simply put, you wouldn't pour soapy water on your clothes, hang them out to dry and then call them "clean," would you? Then why do that to your carpets?

David Berthold

Green Products Misleading... cont'd

For example, a liquid laundry detergent that makes the claim "petrochemical free" contained only 69% plant-based carbon, meaning that 31% of the carbon in this sample is, in fact, petroleum-derived. In fact of the 22 products tested, from dishwashing liquid to hand soap, ALL of them contained at least some traces of petroleum.

Why would they do this?

Well it's a simple matter of economics. Petroleum-based carbons are cheaper and come from a more stable supply unaffected by natural conditions like climate and natural disasters. The researchers were also quick to point out that the method they used (carbon dating) was a unique approach to this type of testing, and so manufacturers may legitimately be unaware of the actual petroleum

content going into their products. Either way it's important to remember that while you may not eliminate the hazard completely, buying these products will still help to reduce your carbon footprint substantially.

Original online article by Rebecca Greenfield 4/1/11
www.theatlantic.com

