



# Applied Concepts & Technologies Corp.

**Professional Application Integrators**

Commercial, Government, Industrial, Institutional, Military, Municipal, Residential



## Portable UVGI Systems Effective At Sanitizing Room Surfaces

*UV-C systems are used to shorten cleaning time in classrooms and are more effective too!*

*By: Sarah Radford*

The past several years have shown us just how fast infectious diseases can travel and most recently when these diseases are present in schools. There are reports of schools closing, children and adults alike getting sick due to exposure while in school. These concerns are now being fought by closing schools and hiring additional staff that attempt to rid the facilities of these infectious diseases with a thorough wipe down. When one considers the amount of surface area in one room and then multiplies that by the number of rooms the personnel, time and cost required is staggering.

During the past few years various manufacturers of UVGI equipment have been busy developing and testing equipment that augments the wipe down process in facilities, increases the effectiveness, and reduces the overall cost. These units are called mobile or portable UVGI room sanitizers. Testing includes calculations as well as field trials to determine effectiveness. In most cases the results show that using a prescribed time of 3 to 15 minutes depending on the size of the room and the microorganisms targeted will create a destruction rate of 98% or better on all exposed surfaces in a room. The only labor required is to move the unit from room to room and then wipe down surfaces that are not exposed or shaded. This reduces the cost of labor and increases its effectiveness exponentially.

The units range in cost, depending on the manufacturer, from \$5,000 to \$125,000 and with the difference being features and markets served. "We've found that the lower priced equipment works very well at accomplishing the task. Although it does not have all the features of the most expensive models out there, it does do the job", says Susan Albert, President and CEO of Applied Concepts & Technologies Corp. "The most expensive portable equipment is very sophisticated and has a lot of bells and whistles. In any case the payback is measured in days or months rather than years."

Portable or mobile UVGI systems are also being used for other tasks. A recent article in the Chicagoland HVAC Insider (April 2009) reported the use of a portable UVGI system to eliminate the odors in a high school locker room. The odors, common to most locker rooms, were being caused by mold and bacteria building up in the lockers and other areas of the room. In the past the schools maintenance people attempted to clean everything but the task was difficult. Lockers have many hard to reach areas and the continuous use made it difficult to have the appropriate amount of time to do the job. Upon using a portable UVGI system they were able to eliminate the odor, enhance the IAQ, eliminate the mold and bacteria and are now able to maintain cleanliness in the locker room. The UVGI light actually reflects in to the hard to reach places. The article goes on to discuss that the unit is now used in other parts of the school as well.

Most portable UVGI systems are mounted on casters and can be moved by a single person. "The advantage of using this equipment is that it is, as the name implies, mobile. Depending on the size of the facility or school

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district, they can buy one or more units and easily sanitize everything with a very small crew overnight. Some smaller school districts are even transporting the units from school to school.” Albert said.

The necessity of maintaining safe and productive environments in our facilities and schools is paramount. Although not universally used yet, the popularity of portable UVGI systems in facilities is growing. When considering the low cost, short payback and increased effectiveness of destroying mold bacteria and viruses it becomes even more affordable than ever before for any facility to use portable UVGI systems.

### **About Applied Concepts & Technologies Corp.**

Applied Concepts & Technologies Corp. works with proven green technologies to provide customized solutions, services, equipment, systems and retrofits for commercial & institutional facilities as well as homes around the world. Applications feature high rates of return, and short paybacks while providing critical enhancements to indoor environments and reduced operating budgets. Professional Application Integrators from Applied Concepts & Technologies Corp. are your source for proven solutions that meet a facilities needs in the most economical way possible.

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