CARMEL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

NIGHTLY CLEANING TRANSFORMED WITH ON-DEMAND ELECTROCHEMICALLY ACTIVATED CLEANING AND DISINFECTING SOLUTIONS

CHALLENGE

Carmel Catholic High School in Mundelein, Illinois is a 1,150-student school run by the priests and brothers of the Order of Carmelites and the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This highly respected parochial high school provides a well-rounded educational experience through academics, arts and athletics, and fosters a commitment to the community and the environment in its students. The COVID-19 pandemic led Carmel Catholic High School to adopt a hybrid learning plan in August 2020 that allows students to participate in remote learning from home and in-person classes.

With students, faculty and staff meeting on site, the school has placed a high priority on cleaning during the day and evening to reduce the risk of virus transmission and keep the in-person educational experience available to students. GSF-USA, a global cleaning services company, cleans the school nightly and Carmel Catholic's custodial team handles daytime cleaning. The GSF-USA team wanted to move away from traditional cleaning chemicals that can have a negative impact on custodial professionals, building occupants and indoor air quality without sacrificing efficacy. This goal aligned with the school's intent to keep the community safe while also living out its values of protecting the environment.

"Providing a healthier environment for students, custodial staff, teachers and all other building occupants is paramount," said Claudio R. Hernandez, Area Manager, GSF-USA.

"The pandemic has presented new challenges because more frequent cleaning and disinfecting is expected, but it can actually result in adverse effects if the appropriate products aren't being used."

SOLUTION

In a commitment to provide effective and environmentally responsible cleaning and disinfecting, GSF installed a PathoSans on-site generation (OSG) system at the school. The system uses water, salt and electricity to create PathoClean®, a cleaner/degreaser, and PathoCide®, a sanitizer/disinfectant, on demand and on site. The electrochemically activated (ECA) solutions are readily available, eliminate supply chain issues and do not contain added fragrances or caustic ingredients. PathoCide is laboratory proven to be effective at inactivating the SARS-CoV-2 .*

"We are a big proponent of the PathoSans system because it is a better and safer alternative to traditional chemicals," added Hernandez. "While some of our employees are new to working with ECA solutions, they have quickly become raving fans after

"Using products like PathoSans gives us peace of mind and results in cleaner, healthier schools."

using the cleaner and disinfectant and seeing the positive difference it makes at Carmel Catholic."

Some GSF professionals were skeptical of the PathoSans ECA solutions at first because unlike more traditional cleaners, they look like water, contain no added fragrance or dyes and do not produce soapy bubbles. However, the employees soon realized that the products are easy to use, do not require labor intensive scrubbing and deliver a better clean. Employees noticed the bathroom floors and walls were cleaner after each application and the solutions were removing both odors and stains. They also like that PathoClean and PathoCide do not harm their skin.

Each night, GSF's team thoroughly cleans and disinfects high-touch surfaces throughout the school including classrooms, hallways, restrooms and more. When the science teachers learned about the PathoSans solutions being used in the school, they began researching the ECA method of cleaning and disinfecting. They recognized the benefits provided by the sodium hydroxide cleaner/degreaser and hypochlorous acid sanitizer/disinfectant. Many teachers now use the cleaner and disinfectant in their own classrooms and the teachers' lounge.

RESULTS

The partnership with GSF-USA and PathoSans provides Carmel Catholic High School with:

Healthier and safer cleaning for people and the environment - The PathoSans solutions offer an effective alternative to typical caustic chemicals with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that are harmful to people and the environment. PathoClean and PathoCide are non-irritating to eyes and skin. They also do not leave behind an odor or residue. This makes them ideal for frequent use by cleaning professionals in the school where students, faculty and staff may have allergies, asthma or other sensitive health conditions.

Uninterrupted supplies of cleaning and disinfecting solutions - The PathoSans solutions are produced in house and on demand. GSF knows their team will always have the necessary products to clean and disinfect the school at night and will not encounter supply chain issues. Daily and monthly system maintenance is quick and simple, and ensures that the system continually produces solutions within effective and safe ranges.

School-wide support and commitment to cleanliness - For added assurance against COVID-19, many of the teachers are embracing the PathoSans solutions and supplementing GSF's nightly cleaning and the custodial team's daytime cleaning with their own cleaning and disinfecting efforts in classrooms. Teachers and cleaning staff use PathoClean to remove surface soils, followed by PathoCide to target remaining pathogens. PathoCide is 99.999% effective against numerous bacteria, fungi and viruses, including SARS-CoV-2. Regular use of the PathoSans solutions improves the appearance of surface finishes by removing layers of soil, making the school look cleaner than ever before.

"We are dedicated to doing what is best for the facilities we serve as well as our employees," said Hernandez.

**PathoCide® has been proven by an independent GLP laboratory to inactivate the SARS-CoV-2 virus in 60 seconds on a pre-cleaned surface and in 10 minutes in a one-step process when produced by on-site generator and used as directed. It is also effective against a wide range of bacteria and viruses, including Norovirus, which is generally recognized as one of the most difficult to kill.*

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