



October 2020

Facility Sanitizing: Chemicals and Kids Don't Mix! A Case for Dry Hydrogen Peroxide

School administrators and facility managers are in uncharted waters in 2020. The Covid-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges as School Districts attempt to balance the need for quality education with the health and safety of students and staff. Traditional sanitizing tactics are no longer sustainable. The integration of Dry Hydrogen Peroxide (DHP) technology provides a safe, proven, and continual bio defense system for educational facilities.


Research shows the reduction of bioburden mitigates the risk of infections. While ongoing attempts have been made to reduce bioburden through improved manual cleaning and other sanitation initiatives, research shows that they have been largely ineffective, cumbersome, and/or costly.

Healthcare research has revealed that even after manual cleaning, as many as 50% of surfaces remain contaminated with pathogens. In a multi-site study, 1,100 patient rooms in 23 acute care hospitals were exposed to ultraviolet light. Only 49% of the surfaces were found to be adequately cleaned.

Many manual sanitizing options exist to help reduce the microbial load in a facility, but none have produced a sustained reduction of pathogens. Manual efforts require a significant effort by cleaning personnel, only to have the bioburden begin to grow back soon after the cleaning is complete.

These challenges have led to "no touch" systems including ultraviolet radiation and hydrogen peroxide vapor. A 2019 issue of the American Journal of Infection Control found that the effectiveness of ultraviolet radiation is reduced as distance from the device increases and residual pathogen contamination is not uncommon on surfaces after exposure. The team added that vapor technology is significantly more effective than UV, but safety is a particular concern and the rapid rate of recontamination





suggests that it is not an effective means of maintaining low level environmental contamination.

DHP is an innovative technology that has emerged to support the efforts expended on environmental cleaning and disinfection. The DHP technology is a microbial reduction system that provides a safe, continuous, natural reduction of viruses, bacteria, and mold in the air and on surfaces, and other infectious agents. DHP has been effective in reducing bioburden in the food, hospitality, healthcare, agriculture, and professional sports industries for over ten years.

This technology, which invisibly delivers a gas composed of dry hydrogen peroxide molecules combined with ambient room oxygen and humidity, does not require ongoing behavior change or education of personnel. It is self-sustaining and allows continued sanitizing of the air and surfaces of occupied spaces. It is also very effective at eradicating insects and pests such as bed bugs, lice, fleas, and cockroaches.


So how does it work? The system produces a gas, rather than a vapor, by catalytically combining the water and oxygen molecules in the air to produce Dry Hydrogen Peroxide (DHP) gas. The DHP gas diffuses invisibly and continuously through the air, changing the concentration of gas particles in each cubic micron of air in the room to sanitize a targeted area.


Microbes require water to survive and have electrostatically charged points on their cell surfaces that are designed to attract water molecules. Because DHP (H_2O_2) molecules are very similar to water (H_2O) molecules, they can attach to these charged points, attacking the microbes, disrupting their cell membranes, and incapacitating them.

In essence, the DHP cleans every part of the room that the air touches - including hard and soft surfaces, floors, walls, windows, doors, and ceilings. And because a DHP unit runs continuously, there is also less chance for cross-contamination and re-contamination of surfaces.

DHP and COVID 19

The value of a microbial reduction solution that can safely and effectively operate in occupied settings has perhaps never been greater than it is now during the COVID-19 pandemic. Studies have shown that SARS-CoV-2 can survive up to several hours in aerosols and up to days on certain surface materials. The CDC states that, “It is





possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes.”

The CDC has issued guidance on environmental cleaning and disinfection across a spectrum of settings, ranging from healthcare facilities to schools. This guidance includes use of disinfectants that meet the Environmental Protection Agency’s criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2.⁴⁹

The EPA indicates that to claim effectiveness against a SARS coronavirus, a disinfectant must be able to eliminate that class of virus (a small, non-enveloped virus). If the disinfectant can kill this class of virus, it should be able to kill any enveloped or non-enveloped virus. DHP has not only demonstrated efficacy in reducing viral load of these viruses in several studies, but also in reducing viral load of a gamma coronavirus, another member of the Coronavirus family. In fact, it reduced the level of the gamma coronavirus by over 99% within just 24 hours. This shows that DHP could be effective in the battle against COVID-19.

Dry hydrogen peroxide technology offers a game-changing capability for the ongoing mitigation of microbial threats, even in occupied spaces and hard to reach areas. Operating invisibly around the clock, this innovative, patented technology produces a gas that drastically reduces microbial bioburden.

The system itself is low maintenance and requires no additional FTEs or staff training because its operation is completely automated, running in the background without any effort or actions required by staff. The combination of efficacy, safety, ease of use and cost effectiveness makes DHP technology an ideal solution for New Mexico schools and public agencies.












The Synexis Bio Defense System is available via CES from SmartCARE Facility Services.



Tip of the Month

Is your district or charter in need of Ancillary Services? CES employs nearly 300 therapists and service providers to help meet your organization's needs. Please contact our Director of Ancillary Services to see what CES can do for your students. Lisa Chacon-Kedge, lisa@ces.org, 505-344-5470 x130.

Calendar of Events

- 10/1 CES Region 8 Fall Meeting, virtual 
- 10/2 National Custodian Recog. Day 
- 10/7 NMSBA Fall Region I Meeting 
- 10/12-16 NMSBO Boot Camp 
- 10/12 Indigenous Peoples' Day 
- 10/14 Official 40th Day of School - NM 
- 10/14 NMSBA Fall Region IV Meeting 
- 10/16 National Boss's Day 
- 10/19 NMSBA Fall Region III Meeting 
- 10/20 NMSBA Fall Region VII Meeting 
- 10/31 Halloween 

October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Procurement News

1) Procurement Issues and News

- **Interagency Collaborations Update**

PSFA is partnering with CES for E-Rate. CES is doing the RFP & Form 470s, awarding contracts for schools & libraries to use.

- **New round of 2021 (7) JOC RFPs ✓**

CES has begun the Job Order Contracting solicitation process for replacing the 2018 contracts that were awarded for 3 years.

2) Contract Expirations

17-002 Dodge, Chrysler, and Jeep Cars, Trucks, Vans and other Products and Services: Melloy Dodge and Tate Branch (New Contracts were issued in August 2020)

17-010 Supplemental Employee Benefits: Competitive Benefits Administrators
Multiple awards. New contracts negotiated after 15-day protest period ends (9/25)



3) Status of Ongoing Solicitations

RFP #	RFP Description	Release	Pre-prop	Closed	Evaluations
2021-05	<i>Supplemental Employee Benefits</i> <i>a. Cafeteria Plan (section 125)</i> <i>b. Retirement & Differed Income</i> <i>c. Other Benefits (i.e. cancer, short term disability)</i>	7/20	7/22	8/14	8/17-20/20
2021-13	<i>General Office, Classroom & Vocational – Supplies, Equipment, Furniture</i>	8/14	8/18	9/4	9/9-15 24 proposals

4) JOC Ongoing Solicitations

RFP #	RFP Description	Release	Pre-prop	Closed	Evaluations
2021-02	<i>E-Rate, Category 2 - Eligible and Ineligible Products and Services</i>	8/31	9/11	10/23	10/26 – 11/2
2021-07	<i>Job Order Contracting (JOC)</i> Landscaping	8/28	9/2 10:00 am	9/28	10/5-15
2021-09	<i>Job Order Contracting (JOC)</i> Mech./Elec./Plumbing (MEP)	8/28	9/2 10:00 am	9/28	10/5-15
2021-08	<i>Job Order Contracting (JOC)</i> Fencing	8/28	9/2 10:00 am	9/28	10/5-15
2021-10	<i>Job Order Contracting (JOC)</i> General Contractor	8/28	9/2 10:00 am	9/28	10/5-15
2021-06	<i>Job Order Contracting (JOC)</i> Painting & Stucco	8/28	9/2 10:00 am	9/28	10/5-15
2021-11	<i>Job Order Contracting (JOC)</i> Roofing	8/28	9/2 10:00 am	9/28	10/5-15
2021-12	<i>Job Order Contracting (JOC)</i> Paving & Site Work	8/28	9/2 10:00 am	9/28	10/5-15



Five Ways to Help Protect Yourself from Unemployment Insurance Fraud



(BPT) - Many people around the U.S. are relying on unemployment insurance assistance as the country battles the pandemic and associated economic effects. As unemployment has risen, fraudsters have been targeting consumers to steal unemployment insurance benefits. They do this by taking personally identifiable information (PII) that cybercriminals have posted on the dark web, stolen from unsuspecting consumers or gained from past data breaches.


Once fraudsters have this information, which can include a victim's name, address, Social Security number and driver license number, they falsely apply to a state's unemployment insurance program to register for unemployment insurance benefits. These benefits are typically distributed via direct deposit or prepaid debit cards for those without bank accounts. Once a fraudster has access to the stolen funds, they can use a prepaid payment account service and its mobile app to cash out or make purchases - in-store or online - for items like gift cards, electronics, cryptocurrency, money orders, and money transfers.

"We've seen a significant increase in fraudulent purchases in July, related to unemployment insurance fraud schemes," said Michael Lemberger, senior vice president and regional risk officer for North America at Visa. "Fraudsters are actively targeting state unemployment insurance programs hoping to find gaps. This problem requires a collective effort with everyone doing their part, including the state workforce agencies, law enforcement, financial institutions, payment processors and payment networks. Consumers must be on-guard for suspicious activities so fraudsters cannot exploit their identity for financial gain."

The warning signs for these crimes can be tough to spot, but here are common red flags to look out for:

- 1) Offers from people or organizations you don't recognize promising early and faster unemployment insurance benefit payments.
- 2) Solicitations from people you don't know offering money in exchange for your personal information.
- 3) Letters or email correspondence indicating new accounts or unemployment insurance benefits have been initiated in your name.






To avoid your personal information from being used for fraud, Visa recommends the following to protect yourself:

- Proactively register for an unemployment insurance account directly through your state's website. This way, if anyone tries to steal your information, state authorities will notify you as soon as possible and prevent your money from getting stolen.
- Secure your personal information - online and offline. Use online tools to encrypt and lock down sensitive digital information, such as your financial and health documents.
- For physical documents with your personal and financial information, make sure they are locked in a secure spot and safely shred any documents you do not need.
- Be mindful of social media and email scams. If it seems too good to be true, it probably is. Fraudsters will try to convince you that you can get your benefits sooner, you may be eligible for more benefits, or a person you do not know needs help with their unemployment insurance payments.
- Just like our physical hygiene is crucial right now, so is our cyber hygiene. Do not click on links or attachments from email addresses and people you do not recognize or offers you did not ask for.
- And, last but not least, your information is valuable so keep your personal information to yourself. Never share your personal information unless there is a legitimate reason to do so.

If the worst-case scenario happens and a fraudster gets hold of your personally identifiable information to commit unemployment insurance fraud, there are steps Visa recommends you take, including:

- Contact the three primary credit bureaus, Equifax, Experian and TransUnion.
- Contact your respective financial institution.
- Contact your state unemployment office.
- Visit [IdentityTheft.gov](https://www.IdentityTheft.gov) to report the fraud to the FTC and get help with important next steps for recovery.
- Review your credit reports often.

Cybercriminals are continuing to up their game, but if people take the necessary precautions and remain on the lookout for anything suspicious, these fraud attempts will become much less successful and frequent.



CES CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS





Sunita Smith, MA. and Linda A. Gregg, Ed.D.
Certified Trauma Support Specialists

Ongoing Professional Development to support staff during 2020-21 return to school.



We are here VIRTUALLY for you!



Linda A. Gregg, Ed.D. is a CES Technical Assistance Program (TAP) Consultant and Certified Trauma Support Specialist. Linda is a former general ed and special education teacher, Director of Special Ed., Associate Professor and published author.



Sunita Smith, M.A., is a CES Technical Assistance Program (TAP) Consultant and Certified Trauma Support Specialist. Sunita is a former special education teacher and a former behavior consultant.

We offer convenient live webinars open to all educators, requests from school districts and On-Demand recorded webinars.

Join interactive monthly live virtual professional development based on the **Core SEL Competencies** throughout the school year including:

- Self-Awareness
- Responsible Decision Making
- Relationship Skills
- Social Awareness
- Self Management

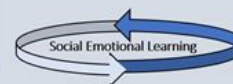
Social is Emotional Learning important because

Benefits:

- Improvements in classroom behavior.
- Increase in self-confidence.
- 11% Increase on standardized scores.
- Social Emotional Skills.
- Better attitudes about school and interactions with others.

Reduces:

- Aggressive Behavior
- Emotional Distress
- Conduct Problems



Contact: Loretta Garcia | lgarcia@ces.org
Technical Assistance Program Coordinator
Cooperative Educational Services
TAP Hotline: (505) 985-8454



CES Virtual Academy

for Instructional Professionals and Leaders

In support of educators across New Mexico as they develop their practice in the virtual environment, CES invites you to collaborate on the offerings of the 2020-2021 Virtual Academy. Sessions will provide the opportunity to build student knowledge and skills in new and different ways. Join us as we explore a wide variety of ways to scaffold the expertise you have and find powerful new ways to frame the delivery of your lesson design in “virtually” engaging ways.

Topics Include:

- ❖ *Synchronous Platforms*
- ❖ *Learning Management Systems*
- ❖ *Engaging for Online Tools*
- ❖ *Special Education in the Virtual World*
- ❖ *Leadership in the Virtual World*
- ❖ *Social Emotional Learning for Remote Learners, Teachers and Leaders*
- ❖ *Computer Knowledge*



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4216 Balloon Park Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109 | 505.344.5470 | www.ces.org



CES Contacts

Jim Barentine
Southern Services Manager
Email: jim@ces.org
Phone: 575.646.5965
Fax: 866.877.0629

Kelly Bassham
Financial Specialist/Accounts Payable
Email: kelly@ces.org
Phone: Ext 135

Paul Benoit
Northern Services Manager, REAP
Email: paul@ces.org
Phone: 575.562.2922
Fax: 575.562.2523

Lisa Chacón-Kedge
Director of Ancillary Services
Email: lisa@ces.org
Phone: Ext 103

Adela Chavez
Ancillary Admin Assistant
Email: adela@ces.org
Phone: Ext 111

David Chavez
Executive Director
Email: david@ces.org
Phone: Ext 109

Rhianna Chavez
Member Service Representative
Email: rhianna@ces.org
Phone: Ext. 107

Elizabeth Diaz
Member Service Representative
Email: ediaz@ces.org
Phone: Ext 115
Fax: 505.715.5822

Holly Goodall
Member Service Representative
Email: hgoodall@ces.org
Phone: Ext 104
Fax: 505.715.5826

Evan Grasser
Prof. Development Co-Lead
Email: evan@ces.org
Phone: 806.341.2699

Diane Hajek
Member Service Representative
Email: dhajek@ces.org
Phone: Ext 137
Fax: 505.715.5826

Kim Lanoy-Sandoval
SITE Senior Trainer, LEAP Coord.
Email: kim@ces.org
Phone: 505.385.0363

Margaret Mikelson
Member Service Representative
Email: margaret@ces.org
Phone: Ext 126
Fax: 505.715.5824

Leslie Neely
Receptionist
Email: leslie@ces.org
Phone: Ext 101

Lori O'Rourke
Business Services Coordinator
Email: lori@ces.org
Phone: Ext 128

Natasha Orona
Financial Specialist/Payroll
Email: natasha@ces.org
Phone: Ext 106

Natasha "Tasha" Ortiz
Member Service Representative
Email: nortiz@ces.org
Phone: Ext: 127

Bowen Perry
Media Specialist
Email: Bo@ces.org
Phone: 575.646.5965

Pam Reed
Executive Admin Assistant
Email: pam@ces.org
Phone: Ext 127

Gloria Rendon
Prof. Development Co-Lead
Email: grendon@ces.org
Phone: 505.690.4698

Bridget Rivera
Finance Specialist
Email: bridget@ces.org
Phone: Ext 122

Lisa Romo
Procurement Admin Assistant
Email: lromo@ces.org
Phone: Ext 116

Gustavo Rossell
Procurement Manager
Email: gustavo@ces.org
Phone: Ext 117

Elena Salazar
SITE Coordinator
Email: elena@ces.org
Phone: Ext 136
Fax: 505.344.9343

Brad Schroeder
IT Manager
Email: brad@ces.org
Phone: Ext 114

Jacklyn Serrano
Member Service Representative
Email: jacklyn@ces.org
Phone: Ext 134
Fax: 505.715.5826

Robin Strauser
Deputy Executive Director
Email: robin@ces.org
Phone: Ext 108

Teri Thelemaque
Human Resources Specialist
Email: teri@ces.org
Phone: Ext 112

John Tortelli
Procurement & Contract Specialist
Email: johnt@ces.org
Phone: Ext 129

Joe Valencia
Procurement & Contract Specialist
Email: joe@ces.org
Phone: Ext 124

Angelina Zamarripa
Ancillary Admin Assistant
Email: angelina@ces.org
Phone: Ext 119

