

Case Study

Ontario Hospital Combats Autopsy and Other Odors

Betty Bunch and Iian MacNivan put ECOZ and the Optimum 4000 to the Test!

When Heather Mackey of Mississauga Medical Supply, a distributor for Vaportek products in Ontario, Canada, visited the Hamilton Civic Hospital System, she asked about the toughest odor problems the housekeeping people dealt with on a daily basis. After months of calls, visits and product trials, her persistence paid off.

Hamilton's challenge to Mackey was to help them combat unpleasant odors in areas such as the linen department, trash (compactor and garbage) collection rooms, and inpatient wards, such as oncology, where treatment methods can produce malodors that are difficult to treat.

Over the course of four weeks, Hamilton General purchased one Optimum 4000 system each week to install in various departments of the hospital. Also, ECOZ was the exclusive odor neutralizer product used, replacing Odorgon, which did not meet the requirements and performance standards demanded by hospital personnel.

"The Optimum 4000 has been an effective ally in combating odor problems that are integral to any hospital environment," said Betty Bunch, director of housekeeping. "The effectiveness of the Optimum 4000 sold us on the system. It is better than any product on the market that we have used and we are very pleased with the positive results in all the areas where we have installed the unit," she added.

Housekeeping purchased five Optimum 4000s as well. With such a wide distribution within the hospital, Mackey hoped to gain visibility and acceptance for additional Vaportek products that are particularly sensitive and suited to the healthcare industry.

When the Forensic Science Department caught wind of the success, Iian MacNivan, director of pathology, ordered an Optimum 4000 on a one month trial; he now has one running around the clock in his forensic unit. The area includes a 40 ft. hallway, 10 ft. wide, with four autopsy rooms off the corridor.

"We had seen the system used effectively in other wards of the hospital. The very nature of our work and the large number of autopsies we conduct necessitate an air treatment system in our department," said MacNivan. "The Optimum 4000 has been in use for over two months now and we do not have the unpleasant odors that we had previously around the morgue area. When the smells get noticeable, we turn the setting up a bit and it's no longer a problem."

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While the Optimum 4000 was successful at Hamilton General, Vaportek's ECOZ odor neutralizer liquid was the product that got Mississauga Medical Supply in the door. The hospital had been searching for a suitable odor neutralizer for a considerable length of time. Their specifications call for a product that neutralizes rather than masks odors, is environmentally friendly and nontoxic, does not make surfaces slippery when applied, and is cost effective. After stringent testing and product evaluation, Hamilton Hospitals determined that ECOZ met all the standards.

"ECOZ has been very well received by hospital staff who actually use the product," says Mackey. "ECOZ leaves no slippery residue on floors, toilet seats, vinyl chairs, etc., and that additional safety feature is very important to a hospital."

"Hamilton General is our first entree into the Hamilton Civic Hospital System," said Mackey. She believes acceptance by them will make it easier to open doors at affiliate hospitals and other facilities in the community. "Mississauga is dedicated to making Vaportek the primary air treatment systems supplier in the market and we are confident that their superior products will command that position."

Here at Vaportek, we take pride in our ability to help our customers solve their tough odor problems. As we did with Bunch and MacNivan, we want to be *your* air quality partners. ASK what Vaportek products can do for you!

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