

EAUC Company Member Case Study

InnuScience Environmentally Friendly Cleaning Accommodation Essex University of Essex

Summary

Currently The University of Essex is using harsh chemicals to clean. This does not conform to the DEFRA Government Buying Standards and is harmful to the environment and people. InnuScience UK has put forward their products, which carry reduced health & safety hazards.

AIM: Introducing environmentally friendly cleaning products to improve Safety, Health and Environmental concerns for staff and residents

Project partners

University of Essex: Accommodation Essex
Distributor: Bunzl Cleaning and Hygiene Supplies Ltd
Manufacturer: InnuScience UK

The problem

A harsh caustic oven cleaner is used to clean to ovens, causing staff difficulties due to odour and levels of heat required. Strong chemicals are being used to clean the residents' washrooms and common areas. This can be harmful to the staff and the residents. It also means that the quality of the cleaning is not as effective due to the product not being used on the correct surface. The cleaners also have too many products on site that take up a lot of time to use.

The approach

Working with experienced cleaning staff and managers, with support from distribution partners, it was possible to use substitute chemicals for environmentally friendly, biotechnology based products. Where products cannot be replaced with bio products – introduce less harsh alternatives. Reduce the number of products on site by introducing more diverse and multi-purpose cleaners. Provide high concentrated products in order to reduce the amount of plastic used.

Our goals

1. Improve sustainability throughout process, using super concentrates and less harsh products
2. Improve cleanliness through modern technologies
3. Simple staff transition to new range of safer products
4. Reducing Chemical risk
5. Best available cost

Obstacles and solutions

Obstacles	Solutions
Concerns about moving to new products due to highly conscientious staff wanting to do a fantastic job at all	Fully explaining what the aim of the trial was, and showing the positives of this change. Demonstrating, from day one,



Company profile

- Biotechnology Cleaning
- Cruelty-Free products
- 23 years of R&D
- Conform to the DEFRA Government Buying Standards.
- New innovative cleaning technology.
- 99.99% ultimate biodegradability over 28 days.

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times.	advantages seen by using less harsh products for staff, residents and the environment.
Ovens and hobs cleaned once or twice weekly in student kitchens – ease of use.	Introduce an oven cleaner that carries reduced risks and used on day one of trial to demonstrate ease of use.
Building fabric worn, requiring harsher product to maintain to standard (certain shower trays).	Accepting that there is no ‘one size fits all’ remedy, and reverting to previously used product here only.
Improving sustainability without increasing financial cost.	Using high concentration products, where possible and training, to maximise the benefit of biologically powered cleaning.
Keeping staff engaged through trial process.	Starting correctly, involving the staff and using the advice they gave. Weekly visits and listening to the experts. In this situation, fantastic staff who made the process a true pleasure!

Performance and results

InnuScience has been successful in introducing and launching their product range, which carries reduced health & safety hazards, making it safe to use in all environments without affecting the health of staff and residents whilst still being planet conscious. The standard of cleaning has been vastly improved and the ease of use of the InnuScience products has saved time. Post trial, only one site previously used chemical product required. The trial has now moved forward and been branched out to include the accommodation areas.

1. InnuScience improved sustainability throughout the process, using super concentrates and substituting harsh chemicals for soft chemical products.
2. Using unique innovations and biotech formulations, InnuScience has improved the cleanliness at The University of Essex and the overall cleaning results.
3. InnuScience has ensured a smooth transition through effective training sessions, training material and training videos.
4. The biotechnology products that have been introduced carry reduced H&S
5. Provided cost in use through super concentrated products.

Lessons learned

It is essential to get an understanding from staff and understand what their difficulties and concerns are, as well as using their expertise to improve advice and solutions. Aim to improve recognition where an existing product is preferable, as all SHE improvement is valuable, and each reduction in older technology is something to be applauded.

Further information

By combining innovation, technology and efficiency; InnuScience has surpassed the highest global standards and are approved by Eco-Schools, Keep Britain Tidy, Cruelty-free (Leaping Bunny), conform to the DEFRA Government Buying Standards and are certified by Ecologo or Ecolabel.

InnuScience is a platinum member of the EAUC and proud that our products carry reduced health & safety hazards, making it safe to use in all environments without affecting your health and still being planet conscious. By simplifying the biotechnology science and maintaining an ‘Excellence as Standard’ approach, InnuScience has successfully carried out a positive trial at the University of Essex.

For more information, please contact Tim Cozens, Relationship Director, InnuScience UK at tim.cozens@innuscience.com

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