

**LAS VEGAS CASINOS ADOPT NEW WEAPON
IN FIGHT AGAINST NOROVIRUS**

Disposable Wipers Meet County Health Department Recommendations

LAS VEGAS (Date) – In the wake of recent outbreaks of the Norovirus in Las Vegas, casinos, hotels and other hospitality facilities are turning to new cleaning and sanitization methods outlined by the Clark County (Nevada) Health District (CCHD). One of the CCHD’s recommendations is the use of disposable cleaning cloths to replace laundered cloth towels for all cleaning activities.

Use of disposable cleaning cloths is thought to help break the chain of infection that can occur when the highly contagious Noroviruses are spread via contact with a surface contaminated with the virus.

“With a reusable cloth towel, you may spread viruses and germs from one location to the next as you clean,” says Andy Clement, category manager, Kimberly-Clark Professional. “But a disposable cleaning cloth like a WYPALL[®] Wiper is designed to be tossed away after each use, lessening the chances for the spread of germs.”

The CCHD’s *Norovirus Outbreak Prevention Guidelines for Hotels/Casinos* calls for the use of disposable cleaning cloths instead of cloth towels that are laundered and then reused:

- During basic clean-up and sanitization, including the use of separate colored cloths in toilet areas.
- In routine guest room cleaning, including the use of separate colored cloths in toilet areas and a new set of cloths to be used for each guest room. Separate cloths are to be used for cleaning and disinfecting surfaces.
- For emesis and feces removal.
- For treatment of other contaminated materials.

“The line of WYPALL[®] Wipers is available in different colors – red, white and blue – to help casinos and lodging properties with this color-coding recommendation,” Clement adds, noting that shortly after the October/November Norovirus outbreak, Kimberly-Clark Professional received an order for 2,000 cases of the disposable towels from a Las Vegas casino eager to meet the new cleaning and sanitization recommendations.

About Kimberly-Clark Corporation

Kimberly-Clark and its well known brands are an indispensable part of life for people in 150 countries. Every day, one in four people around the world use the company’s brands to enhance their health, hygiene and well being. Kimberly-Clark Professional supplies toilet tissue, hand towels, hand soap and industrial wipers for workplace settings. For more information, visit www.kcprofessional.com.

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Norovirus Outbreak Prevention Guidelines

The Clark County (Nevada) Health District issued a set of guidelines for hotels and casinos in the wake of the October/November 2004 Norovirus outbreak. Many of these guidelines can be adopted by other hospitality industry facilities looking to heighten sanitation practices. Following is a small sample of the Guideline's recommendations.

For more, visit www.cchd.org.

- Increase employee hand washing through active management reminders and correction.
- Consider strict glove use policy for all food preparation. Ensure that gloves are changed frequently and that hands are washed between glove changes.
- Switch to auto-dispensing paper towel dispensers in all patron restrooms, employee restrooms, kitchens and locker rooms.
- Use disposable ice buckets and drink cups in all guest rooms and discard them between guests or whenever they are visibly soiled.
- Use disposable cleaning cloths, including separate colored cloths in toilet areas, and a new set of cloths for each guest room.
- Use a virucidal agent to frequently clean and sanitize high-touch areas.
- Correct common cross contamination issues, such as using the same rag to clean bathroom surfaces and wipe down ice buckets. Use one cloth for cleaning and a new cloth for disinfecting surfaces.

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