

PRESS RELEASES

Jan 15, 2014

Ecolab Launches Nexa™ Hand Hygiene Platform to Help Reduce the Spread of Infectious Diseases

Hands are the number-one transmitter of healthcare-associated infections¹; Dirty hands contribute to 50 percent of all foodborne illnesses

ST. PAUL, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Ecolab introduces Nexa™, a new hand hygiene dispensing platform that makes it easier to promote good hand-washing practices and reduce the spread of infectious diseases in healthcare, foodservice, hospitality, long-term care and commercial facilities.

According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), an estimated 80 percent of all infections are transmitted by hands, and hand washing is the single most effective way to reduce the spread of infectious diseases². Failing to sufficiently wash one's hands significantly contributes to the spread of [foodborne illness outbreaks](#)³ and also to the 1.7 million hospital-acquired infections that occur in the U.S. each year⁴. A June 2013 study by [Michigan State University](#) found that only five percent of those observed in public washrooms washed their hands long enough to remove dangerous bacteria⁵.

"The reasons for poor hand hygiene can range from individuals not fully understanding the health risks to feeling they are too busy," said Dr. Andy Cooper, vice president of Research, Development & Engineering at Ecolab. "We've designed Nexa to deliver on key aesthetic and functionality needs, while being flexible and simple to use in our varying customer locations. Nexa also incorporates key design elements that meet our customers' unique needs, such as creating an antimicrobial push bar for the manual dispenser to help inhibit the growth of bacteria, mold and mildew⁶."

The innovative Nexa platform can dispense an array of Ecolab hand hygiene products, including liquid and foam hand soaps, lotions, hand sanitizers and body shampoos, all from the same unit, making changing of products easy. Depending upon the product used, Nexa dispensers can be installed near commercial kitchen sinks, in restrooms and public spaces of commercial buildings, and at nurses' stations, in patient rooms and in public areas of healthcare facilities.

Nexa's simple design meets ADA guidelines and offers many benefits, including:

- Easy product identification through optional color-coded badges and language-free icons
- Adjustable dosing to meet customer and staff needs
- Compact dispensers to fit tight spaces
- Better inventory management through the ability to hold both large and small product bottles, which fit into both the manual and touch-free units
- Less waste through patented pumps that dispense up to 99 percent of product
- Greater sustainability through the use of HDPE-recyclable materials

As part of the Ecolab's hand hygiene program, customers receive regular service visits, customized planning, placement support, ongoing inventory monitoring and free installation that is compliant with fire codes and ADA guidelines. In addition, expert training is offered on proper hand hygiene practices, product and equipment use, and awareness materials are available to help inform and encourage staff to keep hand hygiene top of mind.

For more information about Nexa, visit www.ecolab.com/handhygiene or www.ecolab.com/industries/healthcare/acute-care/hand-hygiene/hand-hygiene-dispensers.

About Ecolab

A trusted partner at more than one million customer locations, Ecolab (ECL) is the global leader in water, hygiene and energy technologies and services that protect people and vital resources. With 2012 sales of \$12 billion and 44,000 associates, Ecolab delivers comprehensive solutions and on-site service to promote safer food, maintain clean environments, optimize water and energy use and improve operational efficiencies for customers in the food, healthcare, energy, hospitality and industrial markets in more than 170 countries around the world.

For more news and information, visit www.ecolab.com.

Follow us on Twitter [@ecolab](#) or Facebook at [facebook.com/ecolab](https://www.facebook.com/ecolab).

(ECL-P)

¹ http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/2007IP/2007ip_part2.html

² www.cdc.gov

³ http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/fast_facts.html

⁴ www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/pdf/hicpac/infections_deaths.pdf

⁵ Michigan State University, "Eww! Only 5 percent wash hands correctly" (June 10, 2013) <http://msutoday.msu.edu/news/2013/eww-only-5-percent-wash-hands-correctly/>

6 Antimicrobial protection in the manual dispenser's push bar continuously inhibits the growth of bacteria, mold and mildew that can cause degradation.

□

Ecolab Inc.

Roman Blahoski, 651-293-4385

MediaRelations@Ecolab.com

Source: Ecolab Inc.

News Provided by Acquire Media

[Back to Press Releases](#)