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The Magazine For Today's Building Maintenance/Housekeeping Executives



SPECIAL REPORT:

*“Disposable tissue toilet seat cover dispensing:
Do your restrooms provide users this
appreciated, protective service?”*

The following article is reprinted with permission from *CM Cleaning Management Magazine*.

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Disposable Tissue Toilet Seat Cover Dispensing:

(Editor's Note: Information for this article was supplied by Sanitor Manufacturing Company, a manufacturer of disposable tissue toilet seat covers, located in Kalamazoo, Michigan. If you would like more information on seat cover dispensing, contact Sanitor at 1-800-379-5314.)

The need and demand for sanitary disposable toilet seat covers and dispensers is a definite one. They provide a service that satisfies the individual's desire and right to have safe, hygienic conveniences. This desire, for many years, was not provided for by any manufacturer, it was expressed though, by restroom users improvising makeshift toilet seat covers out of toilet tissue, paper towels, and even newspaper.

The use of makeshift seat covers often results in messy, wet, unsightly restroom litter, clogged plumbing, frequent cleanups, wasted time, and most importantly, the extra expense of wasted restroom papers such as paper towels and tissues. For these reasons, disposable toilet seat covers can actually be a money saving tool for housekeeping management, as well as an appreciated personal hygiene aid for the restroom user.

The Need For Hygiene & Sanitation

The American people are very sanitation conscious, and have proven the need for this type of product. Awareness that germs and even diseases can be picked up through contact with publicly used conveniences is now common knowledge. It has been proven that several viruses can survive from 1½ hours to 4 hours on toilet seats, remaining infectious until

they expire. These viruses include the rotoviruses that can cause diarrhea, as well as the herpes simplex virus. Bacteria, yeast and candida, sources of vaginitis in women, can also exist temporarily on toilet seats.

Reportedly, researchers have found that toilet seats are a possible conveyance of disease, and although chances of contracting one of them is slim, even the slightest threat to health should be recognized. After recognition, comes action -- the use of protective products such as seat covers.

We all respond to any product or service that has sanitation and cleanliness as its basic appeal. That's why we threw out the common tin drinking cup; that's why disposable food service items have become so popular. People, today, - at the very least - expect the modern restroom to reflect the utmost in cleanliness, sanitation, and convenience.

To take that thought one step further, people expect that first-rate facilities - whether they are commercial, health-care, institutional or industrial - which provide first-rate services or products - will also have first rate restrooms. The cleanliness and organization of restroom paper and soap product dispensing is often an influence on a visitor's perception of the facility as a whole. Disposable tissue toilet seat covers promote a good company/institutional image with visitors, as well as letting employees know how important their safety and comfort is to you in management.

Justifying The Cost Of Using Disposable Toilet Seat Covers

In many instances, the savings on toilet tissue and paper towels alone will pay for installation and dispensing of seat covers. If the cost is offset, then there is no cost, really. The manufacturer who furnished CLEANING MANAGEMENT this information on disposable tissue seat covers reports that their dispensing system costs approximately 3/4¢ per person. Ask for a trial installation from your manufacturer's representative or sanitary supply salesman.

Recognizing The Need For Seat Covers

If you haven't experienced any complaints that your restrooms do not provide disposable tissue seat covers, perhaps you don't think there is a need for them. People, though, do not tend to talk about their personal habits in washrooms. Therefore, management often is not aware how much a service of this personal nature really means to individuals. Manufacturers know, however, that the need has always been expressed by makeshift tissue and towel covers, and perhaps, so do your housekeeping staff members who regularly maintain the restrooms.

The simplest way to find out if your facility has the need for this type of restroom dispensing, is to ask your employees, "Are you finding excess tissue or towels in the stall areas? Do you spend extra time cleaning up the excess paper usage? Is it creating a sloppy appearance that is difficult to keep at acceptable appearance



In this case, disposable tissue seat covers are easily obtained through the use of a lever operated dispenser. The tissue seat covers are flat to fit over the seat effectively, and composed of materials that are completely water soluble.

Disposable tissue toilet seat covers can be a no-cost addition to your restroom dispensing system, because they eliminate other costs. The installation of tissue seat cover dispensers eliminates the waste of hand towels and toilet tissue paper products experienced when restroom users form makeshift seat covers with them. The extra labor associated with cleanup of this excess strewn litter in the stalls is eliminated also. Another benefit is the elimination of frequent and costly plumbing backups caused by users flushing paper towels and an excess of tissue down the toilets after forming makeshift seat covers. Besides these factors, restroom users appreciate the extra protection provided by tissue seat covers. Surprisingly, all these benefits can be obtained at a minimal cost.

Do Your Restrooms Provide Users This Appreciated, Protective Service?

levels?" Also, if you are experiencing plumbing problems due to paper stoppages, this is another indication of the need for seat covers. This improvisation gets expensive, and creates a sloppy restroom appearance that can ruin the image of even a spotless restroom. If the cost of dispensing disposable tissue toilet seat covers is offset by their advantages, or even if the cost is minimal, their installation is a wise purchasing decision, when the need is evident.

Some Elaboration On The Benefits Of Disposable Tissue Seat Covers

Like any other commodity, disposable toilet tissue seat covers must have enough benefits, and cost effectiveness for the end-user to justify a purchase. Here then, are some benefits as provided by a major manufacturer of disposable tissue toilet seat covers and dispensing systems:

Protection Of Employees Health

A number of micro-organisms have been proven to survive on public restroom fixtures for several hours. As mentioned before, viruses that cause diarrhea and herpes simplex; micro-organisms such as bacteria, yeast and candida that cause vaginitis; and also a parasitic disease called trichomonas vaginalis that affects one out of every 4-5 women, can all live for 1-4 hours on toilet seats, and remain infectious as long as they survive. Disposable tissue toilet seat covers are especially appreciated by women restroom users, who are more apt to contract these infectious diseases from direct contact with the seat.

Savings On Towels & Tissue

Great quantities of paper tissue and towel products can be wasted when restroom users attempt to create makeshift seat covers for their safety. When quality disposable seat covers are dispensed neatly, the wastage is eliminated, and the cost of the dispensing system is offset by the savings on paper products intended for other uses.

Elimination Of Plumbing Stoppages

Making a patchwork protection barrier of strips of hand towels or tissue often causes plumbing problems. This is especially true if heavy hand towels are used, instead of lightweight tissue. Plumbing repair is expensive, and restroom use experiences a never-ending traffic flow. Think of the costs that can be incurred over a period of time. Quality tissue seat covers are constructed of high grade tissue that flush easily down the drain, unlike bulky improvised paper towel covers.

Keeping Washrooms Neat & Clean

Much litter is strewn over the floor when users are forced to resort to makeshift coverings. The resulting messy condition of floors and receptacles stays there in a busy restroom, even if cleanings and spot checks are regular. The use of disposable seat covers eliminates this messy accumulation of paper products in stalls.

Reduction Of Cleaning Frequency

The need for more frequent pickup of paper product litter is eliminated with the use of disposable seat covers. Your

staff members will need to perform less spot-checks for strewn paper towels and overflowing stall receptacles. The restroom will appear much neater.

User Convenience Is Improved

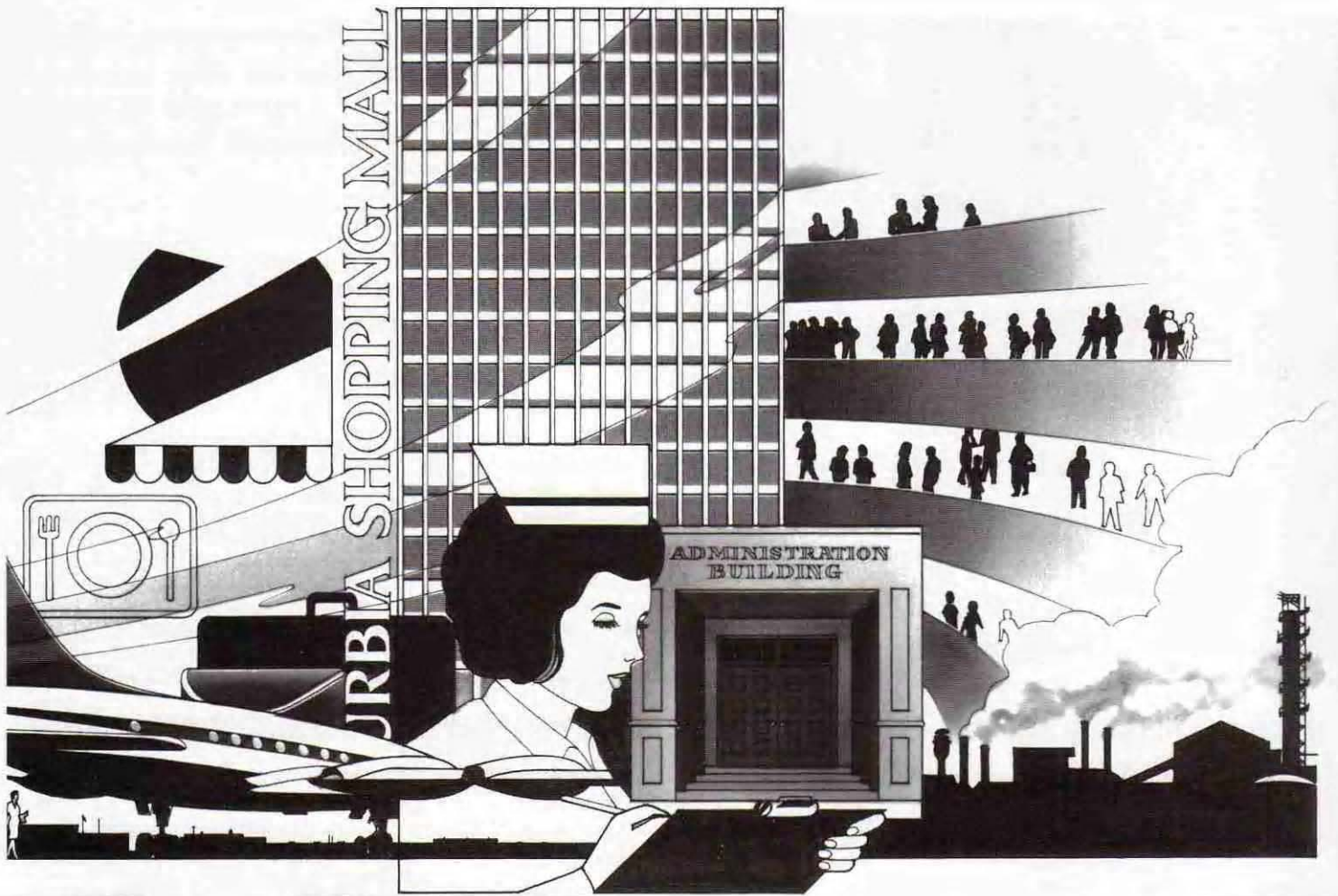
Instead of being forced to protect themselves by tediously placing small sheets of tissue or toweling over seats, the user can neatly obtain a folded, ready-to-use seat cover that fits over the seat perfectly in seconds. This definitely saves time for the user, and the extra thought that your facility has provided for their protection is appreciated, even if it is not spoken of.

Seat Covers Furnish Management, At Little Or No Cost. A

Tangible Way To Show Concern About Employee & Customer Comfort

When you place disposable tissue toilet seat cover dispensing services in your restrooms, management gets a valuable opportunity to express their genuine concern for employee/customer welfare, and an opportunity to demonstrate operational efficiency. This improves employee morale, as well as customer/public relations for your organization. Recognition that personal hygiene is important to the users of your restroom facilities, and provision of products that aid the restroom user in achieving sanitation and comfort, is an employer responsibility.

To conclude, it is difficult to dispute the need for disposable tissue seat covers, and even more difficult to not be able to justify the minimal costs involved in installation of a dispensing system. **CM**



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