



Port Charlotte High School - A Case Study

Problem

Four of ten buildings at the Port Charlotte High School campus in Port Charlotte, Florida were plagued by musty odors and widespread fungal growth. Excessive mold and mildew levels in these buildings is also believed to have caused

numerous health related complaints from teachers and staff. The symptoms included frequent headaches, eye irritation, and upper respiratory ailments that subsided when away from the school.

Application Requirements

Find a method to effectively control airborne microbial contamination and the sources of that contamination in the facility on a long term basis. Any procedure or treatment must be cost-effective, and

essentially odorless and non-toxic to humans. It must be a durable solution which is compatible with normal housekeeping procedures in the school.

Solution

The ÆGIS™ Antimicrobial Program.

Solution Method and Results

The four problem buildings at Port Charlotte High school were single story, block buildings which were constructed in 1980. Ever since construction, mold growth had been a significant problem. Also since the time of construction, there were high moisture levels in the buildings. Indoor relative humidities average 80% in the four buildings. The HVAC system for the buildings was oversized and not able to provide proper moisture control.

A microbiological analysis of the four school buildings in June, 1991, showed that each had high levels of airborne fungal exposure for the occupants. Mold was present at

greater than 430 Colony Forming Units (CFU) per cubic meter of air.

ÆGIS Environmental Management presented its solutions to school officials in July. Treat all carpeting, ceilings and walls with ÆGIS™ Antimicrobial to eliminate microbial reservoirs and control airborne fungal levels.

Treatment was completed in August. Post-treatment tests showed that the airborne fungal exposure levels was reduced by an average of 80.5%, with average airborne mold levels of 80 CFU of fungi per cubic meter of air in each of the buildings



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