

LET'S GET THE FACTS

ABOUT HAND HYGIENE



SUPREME WASHROOMS

FACT 1

- Bacteria, viruses and other microorganisms circulate in restrooms, regardless of the hand drying option. Air and contact surfaces encounter micro-organisms on a regular basis.

FACT 2

- We come into contact every day with all kinds of germ-infected surfaces, not only in a public restroom, yet we don't keep falling catastrophically ill. What is important is that we wash and dry hands properly.

FACT 3

- Electric Hand Dryers are highly efficient and offer a very hygienic hand drying choice. They eliminate the touch process and can dry hands completely which is one of the fundamentals of hand hygiene. They are cost effective and kind on our environment.

FACT 4

- The World Health Organisation recognises hand dryers as solution for promoting hand hygiene and human health.

FACT 5

- During the current pandemic across the world it is imperative that we all adhere to a strict hand washing and hand drying routine and follow the guidance of the World Health Organisation to ensure that we do this effectively. Of course, no device can kill the virus, however we can all play our part responsibly.

FACT 6

- Several in-depth, independent studies, not conducted or funded by the paper towel industry, over the last 30 years have shown that there is no significant difference in the hygiene between paper towels or hand dryers. Such reports have been done by Auckland University and many other world wide recognised institutes confirming this fact.

Most importantly, no matter your drying preference, do not use your clothing to dry your hands. Improper washing and drying of hands represent a public health risk.



OFFICIAL RECOMMENDED HAND WASHING PRACTICE

Step 1 - Wet hands with warm water and apply soap



Step 2 - Rub hands together vigorously (rub all areas)



Step 3 - Wash for at least 20 seconds
(about the same time as it takes to sing 'Happy Birthday')



Step 4 - Rinse well and dry hands thoroughly



WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

HAND DRYERS = HAND HYGIENE
A RECOMMENDED SOLUTION AGAINST COVID-19

"Once your hands are cleaned, you should dry them thoroughly by using paper towels or a warm air dryer."



"Hands should be dried after washing. Studies suggest that using air hand dryers or a clean towel are best"



UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND MEDICAL SCHOOL

Studies carried out at The University of Auckland* have shown the number of disease-causing germs picked up and passed on by touch contact depends on how wet or damp your hands are.

Wet hands transfer up to 70,000 germs to items such as skin, food and utensils during brief contact. This number is reduced to a few hundred if the hands have been dried carefully. The risks of picking up and passing on viruses and other micro-organisms are high if the hands are wet or even damp. Good hand hygiene therefore is a matter of washing and drying the hands carefully.

Hands need to be washed in a stream of running water with rubbing and dried with care. Surveys have shown that many users of public rest room facilities take short cuts when washing and drying their hands. Impatience and queue waiting to access hand drying equipment means that few users of rest room facilities dry their hands properly.

Using a warm air dryer, is an effective way of ensuring your hands are completely dry. The bad press often ascribed to warm air dryers is due entirely to the fact that, in practice, they are used for just a fraction of the time needed to achieve dry hands.

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