B.C. Company fights back against Sick Building Syndrome

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WireService.ca Press Release - Since the late 1990's and possibly even before millions of people throughout the world have been experiencing an unusual phenomenon and not even knowing it, Sick Building Syndrome. For the average person, SBS means nothing to them until it is explained to them.

Wikipedia defines Sick Building Syndrome as a combination of ailments (a syndrome) associated with an individual's place of work (office building) or residence. A 1984 World Health Organization report into the syndrome suggested up to 30% of new and re-modeled buildings worldwide may be linked to symptoms of SBS. Most of the sick building syndrome is related to poor indoor air quality.

Merriam Webster's Medical Dictionary's definition is a set of symptoms (as headache, fatigue, eye irritation, and breathing difficulties) that typically affect workers in modern airtight office buildings, that are believed to be caused by indoor pollutants (as formaldehyde fumes, particulate matter, ormicroorganisms) -abbreviation SBS

A.S. Air Treatment Corporation has come up with a unique way of combating this increasingly more serious problem by developing the ASAT system. A delivery system of an eco-friendly and non-toxic disinfectant into the air ducts of these "Sick" buildings. The neat installation of the atomize spray head allows the air currents to carry the disinfectant molecules through the system, sanitizing the interior and improving the air quality.

The disinfectant used by A.S. Air Treatment Corporation has been manufactured for them by Vance Bio-Energy Ltd. an ISO 14001 registered company that is a world leader in bio-fuel research, based in Singapore. It is EQA approved and has been proven to neutralize large numbers of mold, viruses, and airborne bacteria such as Salmonella, E. Coli, Staph Infection, Legionnaires Disease and more.

Not only should businesses be concerned for the general health of their employees, but it's in their best interest financially to have high quality indoor air for their employees to breathe. Can good IAQ (Indoor Air Quality) lead to high productivity and high economic revenue?

David P. Callan, director of sustainable design and high performance building technology at Syska Hennessy Group in New York City summaries studies that shown how improving indoor air quality can increase productivity and economic revenue in office:

- In a survey of 100 U.S. office buildings, 23 percent of office workers experienced frequent symptoms of Sick Building Syndrome (SBS) such as respiratory ailments, allergies and asthma. The impact has been usually hidden in sick days, lower productivity and medical cost, but the economic impact is enormous, with an estimated decrease in productivity around 2 percent nationwide, resulting in an annual cost to the United States of approximately $60 billion.

- William Fisk from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California established a baseline for quantifying benefits from improved IAQ and demonstrated the economic impacts of increased productivity. Findings are showing that improvement in IAQ can: Reduce SBS symptoms by 20 to 50 percent, with estimated savings of $10 to $100 billion; Reduce asthma by 8 to 25 percent, with estimated savings of $1 to $4 billion; Reduce other respiratory illnesses by 23 to 76 percent, with estimated savings of $6 to $14 billion; Improve office worker productivity by 0.5 to 5 percent, with estimated savings of $20 to $200 billion.

The ASAT system is not just for commercial buildings, but is extremely effective in fitness centres as well, helping to prevent the passing on of germs from the equipment and in the air.

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