

Client: Media company - Sydney



Situation:

A major media organization occupied an office space in the Sydney CBD. The open plan office occupied 400sqm on one floor, and was used by 80 to 100 people on a daily basis.

The facility manager explained that their office had a recurring seasonal absenteeism of 16% to 22% due to respiratory infections. This was a characteristic incidence and was almost always at the same time as employees complaining of bad odours from the air conditioning. The same employee would go away sick, take 2-3 days off, and return on respiratory infection medication.

Treatment:

Test locations were identified. Suitable test locations are typically:

- under selected air conditioning vents
- next to return air conditioning grilles
- on top of frequently used furniture e.g. desk
- across high traffic doorways

Test readings were taken prior to treatment.

A 500g Gel pack was then placed in the plant room dedicated to this office floor.

Following the placement of Clean Air test readings were taken weekly.

Result:

Test results in various locations on the office floor demonstrated a 50-90% decrease in microbial contaminants.

The introduction of Clean Air

- reduced the initial mold and bacteria count found in the workspace to levels below that recommended by the Australian Standards
- reduced absenteeism to below 2%; the 2% could not be attributed by the manager to the indoor work environment.

Conclusion:

The circulating air in an air conditioned environment can be adequately treated for general bio-burden contamination by using Clean Air

The benefits of Clean Air to the organization are:

- Addressing serious OHS with respect to employees
- Enabling productivity gains because people didn't take time off due to absenteeism
- Reducing management strain to reschedule work tasks due to absenteeism
- Removing liability risk from the company due to poor IAQ affecting the health of their employees
- Meeting indoor air quality microbial count guidelines as per AS3666.2 ref HB32

In return for fixing the issue, Clean Air received a very guarded, liability conscious, testimonial which said the entire premises was made to smell and feel better.

Mould Colony Forming Units

* Australian Standards AS3666.3 are set at 1000 CFU

