



Employees are generally more inclined to work productively and experience improved morale when they feel that employers care for their wellbeing. Identifying germ hotspots in the office premises enables employers to select the right hygiene solutions, hence creating a healthier workplace.

Office Facts

- 8-10 hours** spent averagely in the office by an employee
- 400 times** more bacteria are found on office desk compared to the toilet seat⁽¹⁾
- 2 in 3** employees think that the facilities in office washroom are very important⁽²⁾
- 57%** employees feel more motivated to work when they are provided clean washroom⁽²⁾
- PHP 139.3 trillion** (US\$ 2.65 billion) medical costs spent annually due to Salmonellosis⁽³⁾
- PHP 25.1 billion** (US\$ 478 million) medical costs spent annually due to E.coli bacteria⁽³⁾
- PHP 262.8 billion** (US\$ 5 billion) expenses spent annually due to unhygienic workplaces⁽⁴⁾
- 1.6 days** taken by employees because of workplace sub-standard hygiene⁽⁴⁾

Benefits of Identifying Risk Areas

Employee

- Minimize cross contamination, thus reduced illness
- Increased motivation and morale
- Improved focus and productivity
- A safer, healthier and more enjoyable place to work

Employer

- Good reflection of company's image
- Reduced work lost hours
- Lower absenteeism rate and medical cost
- Raise productivity, hence improved profitability

What is Structured Hygiene Survey (SHS)?

SHS is a comprehensive assessment of hygiene levels that allows better identification of:

- Risks areas within your premises
- Hygiene measures that are required
- Whether the current hygiene provisions are delivering adequate hygiene support

In SHS, luminescence swab tests are **utilized** to determine microbe count level.

Here are 3 most contaminated locations in the office:

Reception area

- Reception table 1,323*
- Reception chair handle 3,788*

Workstation cubicle

- Computer Monitor 1,259*
- Telephone 25,127*
- Workstation chair handle 1,966*

Washroom area

- (Male) Toilet seat cover 510*
- (Female) Toilet seat cover 600*
- (Female) Entrance door knob 778*

*Microbe per square inch
ATP Assay Validation set by FDA that <200 Relative Light Unit ensures entire channel meets industries' benchmark

Raising Hygiene Standards with Initial Hygiene



Besides placing hygiene units at strategic locations, instilling the practice of **good personal hygiene among employees** will assist in building the **foundation for good hygiene etiquette** and help **businesses to thrive** in the long run.

Here are the **top 3 simple steps** you can practise in your office to prevent cross contamination of contagious bacteria/ virus.

- Practise thorough hand washing with **soap for 45 seconds** can help decrease the bacteria on hands by up to **80%**.

- Sanitize hands with **anti - bacterial hand sanitiser**, it can kill up to **99.9%** of harmful bacteria and germs effectively.

- Sanitize toilet seat with **anti - bacterial solution** before use, it helps to kill germs on toilet seat surfaces.

Your Expert Hygiene Partner
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Sources:
1) <http://www.mandurahmail.com.au/story/2309604/unhygienic-workplace-study-finds-office-desks-400x-worse-than-a-toilet-seat/>
2) Global Hygiene Survey by Initial Hygiene
3) <http://wallstcheatsheet.com/personal-finance/feeling-ok-4-of-the-most-expensive-office-illnesses.html?a=viewall>
4) <http://www.womensagenda.com.au/future-of-work/workplace-design/where-are-the-germs-hiding-in-your-workplace-the-five-worst-offenders/201406054133#.U7I7Y5SSxe9>