UV Technology A Great Tool for Contractors to Improve Indoor Comfort

By Chris Willette Triatomic Environmental, Inc.

What's all the hype about UV lights? You attend the tradeshows and read the latest trade journals and they're everywhere – is everyone using them or is it just a fad? Do you jump on the band wagon and capitalize on the hype or wait for the technology to prove itself?

Here's the fact: Ultraviolet light (UV) technology has been used since the early 1900's to control pathogens, from disinfecting water to controlling airborne diseases in hospitals. More products are using UV lights as a tool for disinfection, from counter top water sterilizers to portable air purifiers. And recently, UV technology has caught on in the HVAC arena and is rapidly growing in popularity and use. With this growth in popularity, research institutes, government agencies, and trade groups are investigating and proving the merit of the use of ultraviolet light technology for indoor air applications.

So, where do you start and how do you use these UV lights? First, consider ultraviolet lights as a preventative maintenance tool. Use UV in applications that repeatedly cause air handler mold growth or drain pan fowling. Placing the UV lights in proximity to mold and slime growth areas can eliminate pesky growth areas from occurring and reduce the maintenance and wear and tear of coil cleanings, system breakdowns, or drain pan overflow damage. A clean system will perform better and provide your customers better comfort levels.



Consider UV as a tool in hard to solve odor applications. Often, odor sources originate within the air handling system. Placing the UV lights in the ductwork or within the air handler can prevent the growth of the bacteria that causes these odors, such as 'dirty sock syndrome'. Other sources of odors can be reduced or eliminated by UV as well, such as pet odors, cooking odors or household smells which tend to accumulate in a tightly closed home. When a UV light is used, the odor levels can be reduced each time the air re-circulating through the system comes into contact with the UV light. An odor free environment from products and services you offer can bring higher customer satisfaction with the work you perform.

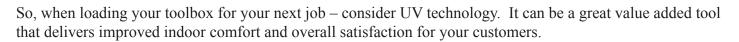
UV can be used as a tool to help reduce homeowners' exposure to household allergens and airborne pathogens such as cold and flu viruses. The use of UV lights in HVAC systems can prevent the growth and propagation of bacteria, viruses, mold and other allergens within air handlers and duct work that otherwise can promote illnesses and allergies. In addition, airborne pathogens can be reduced simply by the UV light exposing the air stream each time it passes through the system, therefore reducing the potential for exposure to these ailments. UV light technology is often identified by allergy suffers to greatly reduce their allergy symptoms.



Advancements in UV technology have brought about UV filtration devices that allow the light to target specialized filtration surfaces. By targeting these surfaces, the UV light sterilizes and captures allergens and pathogens and reduces household odors and chemical

smells. These UV filtering devices can greatly improve the overall indoor air quality levels and reduce household contamination levels. Studies have shown that indoor air can contain up to 5 times the amount of pollutants as outdoor air. Offering your customers advanced indoor air quality tools

to reduce these environmental contaminates can help improve your customers overall indoor comfort levels and help to separate your company's product offering from the competition.



About Triatomic Environmental

Triatomic Environmental specializes in providing advanced germicidal light solutions for enhancement of indoor environmental quality. To learn more visit them on the web at: www.freshaireuv.com. Or contact sales@freshaireuv.com

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