

MAY 1, 2009

Multi-Clean has published on its website an influenza A (H1N1) resource page. Go to the multi-clean homepage and click on the link [www.multi-clean.com](http://www.multi-clean.com)



## Swine Flu Update Cleaning Times Special Edition

### To Our Cleaning Times Subscribers;

Multi-Clean is committed to keeping our customers informed and up to date on information concerning the recent outbreak for the Swine Flu in the United States and Mexico.

First of all, please everyone...calm down. The 24/7 news coverage we are receiving on the Swine Flu is doing nothing but scaring everyone into a panic. As of right now, most cases reported in the US have been mild. While this Swine Flu should be treated seriously, we need to remain calm and use some common sense.

One reason the current reported cases of Swine Flu in the US have been so mild is that the United States is one of the cleanest and healthiest countries in the world. The US has established uniform cleaning and disinfecting processes and products that are universal in all public areas. Agencies such as the EPA, FDA, CDC, USDA and others have regulations that we all must follow. We are also more educated and aware of the importance of protecting ourselves through personal hygiene in our daily lives from the variety of microorganisms that can cause disease.

Multi-Clean offers a broad array of disinfectants for effective hard surface sanitation and hand care products for personal sanitation. These products can be used as indicated below to insure our facilities are kept as safe as possible.

Please review the following for detailed information on the swine flu virus and additional resource links to learn more.

If you have any additional questions or concerns in regards to the Swine Flu or related disinfectant questions, please contact Mike Elms, Technical Service Manager at 651-414-3339 or at [elms.m@minutemanintl.com](mailto:elms.m@minutemanintl.com). Our company stands ready to answer your questions and supply your product needs.

Sincerely,  
Mike Elms  
Technical Service Manager

### Practical Advice

The current Swine Flu should be treated with the same precautions we use every winter to prevent seasonal Influenza.

- Wash Hands with soap and water. Antibacterial hand soaps will provide some additional protection, but it is more important to wash hands for at least 20 seconds and rinse with warm water.
- Hand sanitizers, such as Multi-Clean's Sani-Foam Non-Alcohol Hand Sanitizer also help in protecting yourself against contamination from the Swine Flu virus or most other germs. Use in conjunction with washing hands or when soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth. Germs are easily contracted when you touch a surface that has been contaminated with the virus and then touch your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Disinfect all hard surfaces that could be contaminated with the virus. Century Q 256, Ful-Trole 64 or Microcide TB are great choices. While these disinfectants do not have specific claims for the Swine Influenza A (H1N1), they do have claims for Influenza A. We are not aware of any EPA registered disinfectant that currently has this specific claim for the Swine Influenza A (H1N1).
- Be sure to disinfect properly. Make sure all surfaces remain in contact with the disinfectant for 10 minutes. Spray and leave surfaces wet for 10 minutes, then wipe dry or wipe surface with disinfectant solutions via a sponge, wet rag or mop and allow to air dry.



See ch. 6.1 P. 50-55  
for cleaning and disinfecting measures

## Swine Flu and Disinfectants

While we do not have the specific Swine Influenza A (H1N1) virus listed on our disinfectant labels, you can be rest assured that the quat based Century Q 256, Ful-Trole 64 and Microcide TB are highly effective virucides. The good news is that influenza is an enveloped virus similar to Influenza A which is highly susceptible to quat based disinfectants.

Our disinfectants are currently being tested for the Swine Influenza A (H1N1) virus. However, the time it takes for the testing as well as the time it takes the EPA to review the data and approve our labels will be anywhere from 6 – 9 months. Since the Swine Influenza A (H1N1) virus is a recent mutation, there are no disinfectants that we are aware of that have the specific claims for this specific virus.

Swine influenza viruses are not transmitted by food. You can not get swine influenza from eating pork or pork products. Eating properly handled and cooked pork products is safe. Cooking pork to an internal temperature of 160°F kills the swine flu virus as it does other bacteria and viruses.

The IFMA Foundation has published a **Pandemic Preparedness Manual** that is an excellent resource of information. Multi-Clean strongly recommends anyone that is involved with facility maintenance review **Chapter 6 'Facility Maintenance Measures for Influenza Control and Mitigation'**. This section details, in a checklist format, the facility cleaning and disinfecting measures that should be undertaken through various parts of a facility. This is exceptional resource material that you can bring to your customers to help them properly prepare.

<http://www.ifmafoundation.org/pandemic.pdf>

## Hand Hygiene

Hand Hygiene education is critical to prevent disease transmission. Multi-Clean has created two simple signs that you or your customers can print directly from our website for public education purposes. One poster is a general disease prevention poster, the other is specific to using Multi-Clean Sani-Foam.

Click to view [Protecting Yourself](#)

Click to view [Sani-Foam Hand Hygiene Station](#)

The most important thing anyone can do right now to protect themselves is meticulous hand hygiene.

Frequent hand washing helps prevent transmission of disease, including the swine flu.

Regular hand washing with soap and water is critical. Multi-Fresh Hand Soaps are readily available in liquid and foam varieties.

Additional protection can be afforded by offering a hand sanitizer such as Multi-Clean Sani-Foam. Dispensers can be placed in high traffic locations where water is not readily available. Sani-Foam promotes improved hand hygiene by offering convenient access without the need to for a water source.

Ask the Chemist: Follow this link: <http://www.multi-clean.com/askthechemist.html>

## Questions or Concerns:

If you any additional questions or concerning the Swine Flu or related disinfectant questions, please contact Mike Elms, Technical Service Manager at 651-414-3339 or at [elms.m@minutemanintl.com](mailto:elms.m@minutemanintl.com) or [infomc@minutemanintl.com](mailto:infomc@minutemanintl.com)

## Resources

**The Centers for Disease Control remains the authoritative source for up to date information on the swine flu virus:**

**For additional information, please follow the following links:**

Centers for Disease Control: <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>

World Health Organization: <http://www.who.int/en/>

Health and Human Services: <http://www.hhs.gov/>

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