

Problem SOLVERS

[Problem]

The floors at Washington High School in Sioux Falls, S.D., may not be obvious surfaces for exposing students to bacteria. However, students are actually in frequent contact with the floor in the school's 330,000-square-foot gymnasium. After a staph infection was discovered in the main gym, Robert Underberg, WHS's building manager, needed to ensure that it didn't spread.



[Solution]

Knocking back the recent staph infection at WHS required cleaning the main gym's floor with a stronger and less-diluted detergent than Underberg typically uses. The school's Advance auto scrubber with the EcoFlex™ System made the detergent switch an easy proposition.

"We may not have needed to change the cleaning solution, but the machine's EcoFlex technology made it simple to do and gave us peace of mind that the staph infection wouldn't spread," Underberg said. "We wouldn't have had this option with our old equipment, not without mixing up a whole new batch of detergent and water."

To ensure the staph infection didn't spread from the hardwood floors in the main gym, Underberg simply increased the dilution ratio from the regular one ounce of detergent per gallon of water

to 1.5 ounces per gallon. Because the system dispenses water and detergent separately, he didn't have to mix a new batch of solution when changing the detergent and dilution ratio.

"You get different people and one will dump three or four 'glugs' of detergent in, and then give it an extra shot or two, and another person will do something different," Underberg said. "This way, it's controlled and there is no waste."

While he never intended for his floor scrubber to be a tool to prevent diseases, infections and viruses, he says using it as such was effective in helping allay fears about the staph infection on WHS's gymnasium floors and in knocking back the infection itself.

"It certainly is possible the infection wouldn't have spread from the gym floors, even if we used our regular amount of

detergent," Underberg said. "But with the flexibility we get from our Advance scrubber with the EcoFlex System, we don't even think twice about making decisions like this — especially when it concerns the health of our students and staff."



**For more on the EcoFlex System,
visit www.ecoflexsystem.com or call 800-850-5559.**