



Case Study

Washington Township School System – Indianapolis, Indiana

Challenge

Established in 1955, the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township is a top-rated school system in the northern Indianapolis area. The district consists of seven elementary schools, three middle schools, and one high school and career center. With 3,400 students, North Central High – the largest high school in Indiana – has been ranked in the top two percent of schools in the country.

Just as the school administration strives to improve its curriculum and help students achieve high academic standards, Phil Smith, the district's director of operations, makes every effort to incorporate new building technologies that improve efficiencies, are cost-effective and support the district's high standards.

"I keep my ear to the ground for emerging technologies that can positively impact our schools from a cost, efficiency and green building standpoint," Smith says. "While we weren't interested in renovating our restrooms, I began researching touchless hand dryers. When you consider the millions of hand towels we consume each year, and the associated labor and material costs, I knew it made sense to go hands-free."



Solution

“When I discussed the features and benefits of Bradley’s Aerix® Hand Dryer with Kris Kollmeyer (Bradley sales representative with CMH Associates), I could easily envision the economies of incorporating these hand dryers throughout our schools’ facilities,” Smith says, “Plus, the price was right for us.”

“We began by installing 25 units of the Aerix Hand Dryers at the end of the 2009 school year and found that we really liked this model, so we went on to order several hundred more units and have greatly reduced the amount of paper towels we use,” he says.

Aerix is the first and only adjustable speed warm air hand dryer available in the U.S. that can be set to fit any application, since users can choose their preferred air speed and sensor range. Facility managers can turn the speed up for faster drying in high-traffic, active settings, or turn down for quieter operations like museums or libraries. Depending on the model, Aerix can dry hands in as little as 10 seconds, which is about three times faster than most hand dryers.

“Since elementary schools usually have a lot of restroom activity, we opted to turn the dryers down to a lower setting to encourage a quieter environment for the students,” Smith explains.

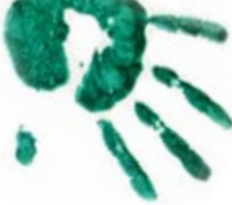
Aerix Hand Dryer Reduces Maintenance, Material, Energy and Environmental Costs

In addition to freeing up time for the maintenance staff and saving money on paper towels, Aerix Hand Dryers are also a “green” solution because they are extremely energy efficient. While Aerix can dry hands three times faster than other models, they still use 80 percent less electricity than other dryers. Of course, Aerix Hand Dryers also cut down significantly on paper towel waste and deforestation verifying that Aerix is an environmentally preferable product for green building.

Aerix Hand Dryers, which are surface mounted and ADA compliant, are also easy to install, since universal voltage adjusts automatically, saving on installation time. The vandal-resistant front cover opens with a special security wrench included with the installation materials.

“When you look at the big picture, Aerix Hand Dryers have substantially reduced our facility costs,” Smith says. “In just the 18 months that we’ve used them, the reductions we’ve seen in both electricity and maintenance expenses have been remarkable. There has been a great return on our investment, particularly in our elementary schools, which has historically produced a continuous waste stream of paper toweling.

“If you add up all the material and maintenance expenditures associated with regular hand towel dispensers, I’d say Aerix Hand Dryers have helped us save upwards of \$30,000 per year – that makes a big difference in our operating costs.”



Aerix hand dryers are adjustable. Facility managers can turn the speed up for faster drying. Or, like Washington Township School System chose to do, the speed can be turned down for quieter operation.

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