

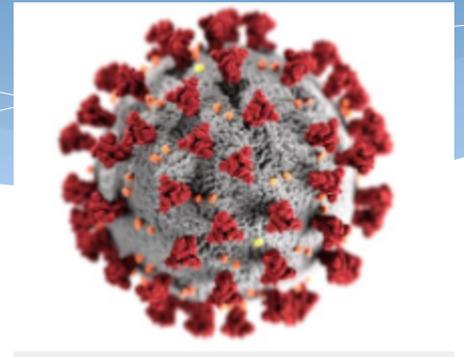
# *Hand Sanitizers; Which One Should I Be Using?*



**July 15, 2020**

# We'll Touch on:

- \* How hand sanitizers are regulated
- \* Alcohol-based products vs. quat-based
- \* Where to find hand sanitizer in an increasingly tight marketplace
- \* Where to locate units in your buildings



# Government Agencies

- \* **CDC** is mandated with protecting the health of Americans(advisory primarily healthcare)
- \* **FDA** ensures that human and veterinary drugs, and vaccines and other biological products and medical devices intended for human use are safe and effective (regulatory)
- \* **EPA** creating standards and laws promoting the health of individuals and the environment



# Hand Sanitizers Vs. Hand Washing?



- \* Hand sanitizers are never a substitute for hand washing
- \* Hands must be clean first. Hand sanitizers do not work on visibly dirty, greasy, or soiled hands
- \* Hand sanitizers can be used to sanitize and periodically re-sanitize as you go about your workday

# Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer

- \* Very flammable, GHS classifies it as a Category III flammable liquid & vapor. Hazard identification mandates special shipping restrictions, storage requirements
- \* Strips hands of natural oils, causing drying, splitting, & cracking. As a result, hands may sting or burn when applied. Compliance/usage may drop due to skin irritation
- \* Cracks and splits, even when minute, diminish skin's ability to act as a barrier to microbials and pathogens
- \* Can be lethal to children if ingested, even in small amounts. Many schools avoid it due to potential toxicity



# What Is A Quat Sanitizer?

Benzalkonium chloride (BZK/BAC)

Quats (quaternary ammonium compounds) are potent **disinfectant** chemicals commonly found in **disinfectant** wipes, sprays and other household cleaners that are designed to kill germs. It is often the stuff that allows a product to claim to be antibacterial, as they are certified by the EPA as pesticides.

# Quat-Based Hand Sanitizer

- \* Non-flammable so there are no special shipping/storage requirements
- \* Emollients in the formulation leave hands moisturized and feeling soft. Does not cause stinging or burning
- \* No irritation for improved compliance to hand hygiene protocols
- \* Improved compliance/usage provides better protection against microbials
- \* Not lethal to children if ingested in small amounts

# Where Should We Put Sanitizing Stations?

- \* At each level of all stairwells
- \* Outside of large conference areas and classrooms without sinks
- \* Inside of elevators and at every entrance
- \* Building entrances and exits
- \* Near bottle fillers and copy machines



# Help!

## Hand Sanitizer is in Short Supply

- \* Contact your current providers – beg if you have to!
- \* Reach out to local distilleries (Harmony Spirits, La Crosse Distillery)
- \* Find chemical manufacturing companies, buy in bulk and distribute as needed (Hydrite Chemicals)

# CDC

## Recommendations



- \* CDC recommends washing hands with soap and water whenever possible because handwashing reduces the amounts of all types of germs and chemicals on hands
- \* If soap and water are not available, using a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol can help you avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others

**Questions?**