

Odour Control in Washrooms

Odour is defined as a sensation resulting in the stimulation of the human olfactory organs. For an odour to be qualified it requires a source, carrier and receiver. Any substance with a vapour pressure can emit odours. The air currents carry the odour vapours or gases to the receiver - the human nose. This odour can be pleasant or malodorous depending on the individual's sensitivity.

Washrooms are sources of hydrogen sulphide, organic acids, ammonia and methane as well as mercaptans, amines, indoles and skatoles. Malodorous substances can be generated in any location in a waste water collection system where anaerobic bacteria produce hydrogen sulphide, ammonia, organic acids and other decomposition products.

Can something be done to resolve malodorous compounds?

The answer is most definitely yes.

Two of the most effective means of odour control are, masking agents which cover the malodorous smells and replace them with what would be considered a pleasant fragrance and also enzymatic bacterial control where the bacterial enzymes actually digest the anaerobic bacteria causing the malodorous effects.

Washroom odours are a large problem for most housekeeping managers at one time or another. Heavy use of these areas along with housekeeping staffs stretched thin across facilities often combine to leave restrooms with conditions that allow odours to grow. Even with the latest equipment and cleaning practices many restrooms still have a distinct odour. One challenge for managers seeking to prevent restroom odours is finding chemicals that perform properly while at the same time fitting into budget and performing in ways that don't present potential harm to cleaning crews or to the environment.

Managers know that if a restroom smells bad visitors will perceive it as dirty, so finding the cause of an odour is essential for removing it. In most restrooms odours result from the presence of urine. This odour actually arises from the bacteria that grow by using urine as a food source. As the bacteria grow so does the odour.

Warm acid in urine makes a good food source and enables bacteria to grow quickly. The urine then changes from acid to alkaline and attracts moisture, which helps keep the bacteria growing. This process continues and the odour grows with it.

The [Ultimate 2.0 Eco Mat](#) attacks this problem from two completely different angles. As soon as the mat is placed in a clean urinal the premium fragrances work to mask any residual odour which may be present. The enzymatic bacterial bio block at its centre then exudes beneficial bacteria which digest the odour causing anaerobic bacteria, resulting in

long term removal of malodours. The block also contains a surfactant which helps distribute the bacteria throughout the drainage system and adheres to the surface allowing the bacteria time to do their work. The 50g block has a concentration of beneficial bacteria to the level of 5.9×10^8 per gram ensuring rapid response to lingering odours. The screen also will reduce the urine splash by up to 95% reducing cleaning time and removing food for other bacteria.

The [Ultimate 2.0 Eco Mat](#) is 100% recyclable and will be the benchmark by which others are judged and also a sign that where they are used the housekeeping managers care about the presentation of the washrooms and also the have the ecological outcome of their cleaning under control. Less chemicals and a better outcome, the [Ultimate 2.0 Eco Mat](#) is today's standard and tomorrows direction.