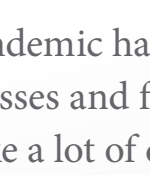




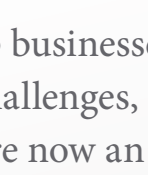
2021 TRENDS

2021 MARKS A BANNER YEAR

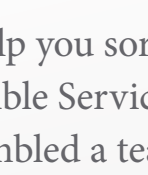
for deploying new tools and technologies to support effective facility operations driven by many factors, including cost efficiency and COVID-19.



The pandemic has caused businesses and families to make a lot of difficult decisions in the last year. Among them are how best to keep their employees safe, maximize the technology resources they have available, and balance the need to focus on sustainability while limiting expenses.



To help businesses meet these challenges, it seems there are now an endless number of products promising to be the best in their class. While some products provide great benefits, unfortunately, others don't work as promised.

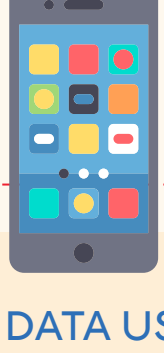


To help you sort it all out, Able Services has assembled a team of subject matter experts to highlight notable cutting-edge tools and trends you should be on the lookout for in the coming year.



TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

APPS FOR REAL-TIME TRACKING AND QUALITY ASSURANCE



With barcodes and QR codes placed strategically inside of a facility, an ever-increasing number of mobile apps enable facilities staff to track cleaning and energy usage, and to perform census and room audits. This facilitates a quick, precise response to client needs and issues within the building.



DATA USE FOR EFFICIENCY

Able Services continues to equip its employees with tablets to expand the flow of data from its field operations to corporate headquarters. This evolution away from the traditional paper-driven, manual processes enables Able Services to take your facilities management to the next level.

FOR EXAMPLE, our proprietary EnAbleIFM Knowledge Management Platform helps to provide a holistic overview of the status of our processes, automate forms and documents and share data with our customers.

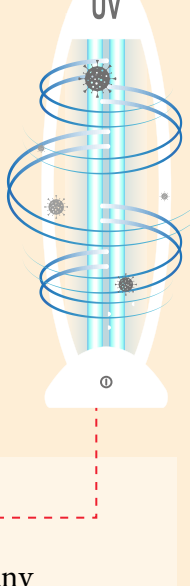
AUTONOMOUS CLEANING MACHINES



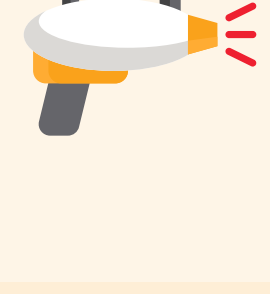
Flooding the market in recent years, the newest models of robot cleaners launch from docking stations to cleanse a programmed route overnight. Depending on the type of unit, the robot cleaner will wash and scrub floor surfaces while another unit applies a disinfecting mist. Most recently, robots equipped with disinfecting ultraviolet (UV) light have entered the marketplace. While these machines are not meant to replace human labor, they are designed to provide additional support and supplement the work of cleaning staff.

UV LIGHTING

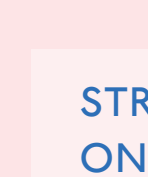
Besides the handheld UV wands used for spot cleaning, in-duct UV systems can be installed to sanitize air continuously as it circulates throughout the HVAC system. This in-duct system also improves energy efficiency because it organically cleans coils and maintains system capacity. For high-traffic spots susceptible to airborne pathogens and cross-contamination, smaller UV units placed strategically in the room can enhance air purification efforts. *According to the FDA, the effectiveness of UVC lamps in inactivating the SARS-CoV-2 virus is unknown because there is limited published data about the wavelength, dose, and duration of UVC radiation required to inactivate the SARS-CoV-2 virus.*



ELECTROSTATIC SPRAYERS

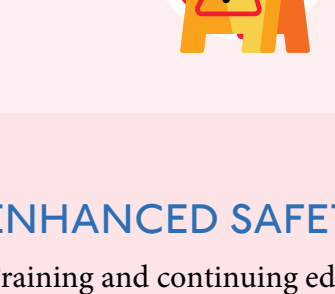


From a special-use piece of equipment to a must-have in many work environments to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 and other pathogens, electrostatic sprayers offer deep cleaning and disinfecting. Electrostatic sprayers, which introduce a charge to cleaning solutions as they leave the nozzle so they better adhere to and clean surfaces, have become a common part of Able Service's **Reliable Response Team** scope of services, and they may even become a normal part of our cleaning protocols well into the future.



THE IMPACT OF COVID-19

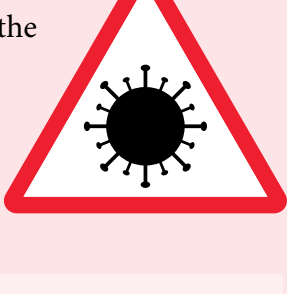
STRETCHED BUDGETS WITH A FOCUS ON EFFICIENCY AND SAFETY



At the same time, however, businesses must maintain the safety and functionality of their workspaces, airflow systems, and equipment, both while they see reduced capacity and to be ready for a return to normal work schedules. This has caused business leaders to prioritize and pinpoint key janitorial and engineering services and ensure they are operating as efficiently as possible.

ENHANCED SAFETY TRAININGS & CONTACT TRACING

Training and continuing education has always been a priority in this industry, but the response to the COVID-19 pandemic has placed even more emphasis on the need for enhanced safety training and tracking. This includes new content on how to protect yourself and others from the spread of COVID-19 and other pathogens, general health and safety awareness training, and how to work, communicate and learn in an online environment to maintain standards.

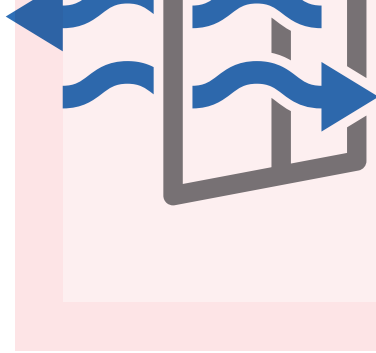
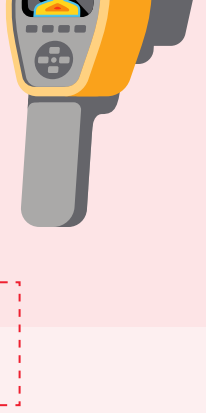


INCREASED DISINFECTION STANDARDS

Despite a reduced or staggered workforce, janitorial services continue to be an essential part of an organization's facilities management. In fact, given the laser focus on cleanliness and the need to keep buildings safe and operational, there has been an increased frequency of—and focus on—quality disinfection services.

THERMAL SCREENING PROCESSES

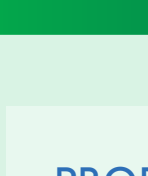
Emerging technology allows for groups of people to be screened collectively as they enter a building, saving time and costs. The technology is so precise, it can differentiate between a hot cup of coffee and the human holding it. *Please note that although thermal screening is being used for initial temperature assessment, the technology currently has limitations and should not be used for mass fever screening, per the FDA.*



HVAC'S ENHANCED ROLE

HVAC has gone from a comfort service to a key tool in helping to maintain the health of those working within a building by changing and purging the air. Options like outside-only air intake and filters that offer enhanced filtration and disinfection give businesses more options when it comes to clearing the air within their workspaces.*

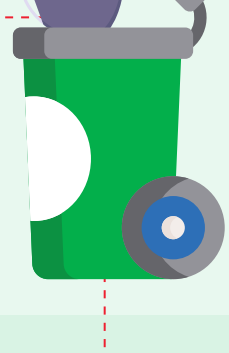
**Incorrectly altering an hvac system can have detrimental effects to a buildings system. Consult with a PE.*



SUSTAINABILITY & WELLNESS

PROPER DISPOSAL OF PPE

The proper disposal of personal protective equipment (PPE) means using a dedicated lined and lidded receptacle for the disposal of facemasks, gloves, forearm coverings and any other single-use items. The bag is tied off and sealed tightly, and the handles of the receptacle are treated with disinfectant.



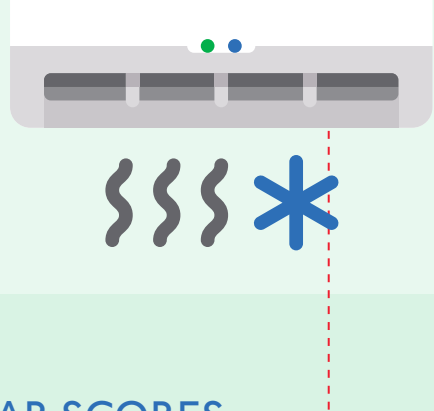
WELLNESS CERTIFICATIONS



Fitwel and **WELL** certifications are based on medical research that measures the health and wellness of workers inside a specific building by monitoring air and water quality, lighting and other factors known to improve fitness, mood and sleep. Fitwel added a **Viral Response module** this year to track building policy responses to COVID-19. Assuring tenants and employees that their space is not only safe, but also conducive for human productivity, is now part of the requirement for facilities managers and property professionals.

RUNNING HVAC'S AT OPTIMAL EFFICIENCY

Artificial intelligence, sensors and smart devices have given companies more control and insight into the performance of their climate control and airflow systems. In addition to determining cooling schedules based on occupancy, these smart sensors can sense occupancy or vary temperature control based on weather conditions to help save energy and money.

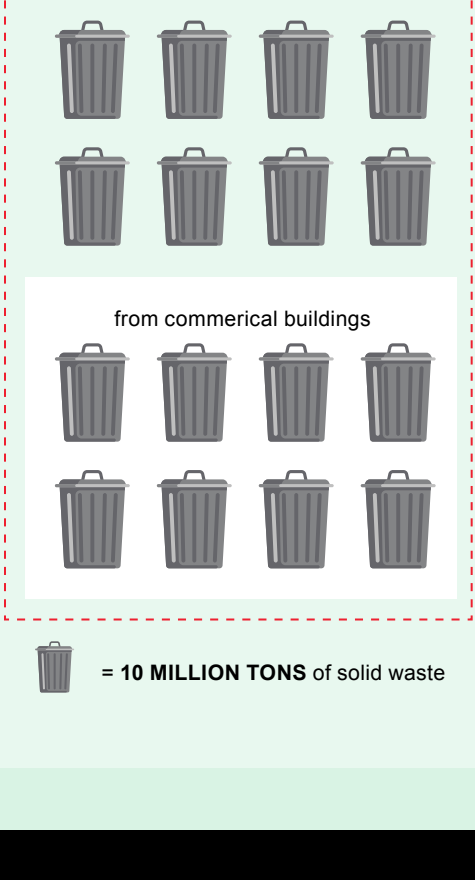


UPDATED ENERGYSTAR SCORES

EnergyStar scores have been updated to reflect. Operating buildings have been forced to operate during the pandemic. Operating hours and the number of workers on main shifts should be updated to reflect current conditions, and the deadline for 2020 certification was moved back to February 10, 2021.

ZERO-WASTE TRACKING

According to the EPA, nearly half of the estimated 160 million tons of solid waste dropped in U.S. landfills every year comes from commercial buildings. A number of apps now give organizations a better handle on the waste that they generate, as well as the efficiency of their waste management activities. For example, apps help reduce operational costs by notifying waste collectors to only collect waste when dumpsters are full or when certain contamination levels are reached, limiting unnecessary hauls. Other apps quantify the amount of waste produced, which can be shared with staff to make them more conscious of the volume of trash they generate. These changes to a company's waste management activities not only cut costs, but they also boost an organization's sustainability and engage employees.



BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

IF 2020 HAS TAUGHT US ONE THING, IT IS THAT WE HAVE TO REMAIN FLEXIBLE IN THE FACE OF UNCERTAINTY.

However, as these trends and new technologies have shown, there is still a lot to look forward to as we leave 2020 behind and turn the page to a new chapter.

Of course, not all of these trends and innovations will make sense for every business out there, so make sure to complete a cost-benefit analysis to identify the ones that fit best with your situation.

If you need more information to make that decision, reach out to your provider or **CONTACT US!**

