

Buyer Beware

“The Hydroxyl Generator Dilemma”

By Russ McCubbin

There are some newfangled machines in town and the companies that manufacture them are making some outlandish claims and others are just outright lying. If you are thinking of purchasing one of these “Hydroxyl Generators” or maybe you already own one, do yourself a favor and do your due diligence on the claims of no ozone output and being able to be run in occupied areas such as daycare centers, nursing homes and your children's bedroom just to name a few. Ozone at any level is not good to breath. Just because the government puts an allowable limit on something doesn't mean that it is good for you or that you even want it. A couple examples of the government established allowable limits are cow manure in milk, bug parts in food or mercury in fish. Get my point? Ozone is a very strong oxidizing gas that attacks organics. Your eyes and lungs are organic. Ozone is a great tool when used correctly at high levels in ***unoccupied*** areas for the eradication of odors and microbials but should never be used while anything that breaths, people or animals, are in the treatment area. In the last few years a couple companies have come under scrutiny for their ozone output claims for occupied areas. One of these would be Alpine/EcoQuest that sold ozone generators through a network marketing setup by untrained people who claimed that these units were safe to be around and would heal everything form ingrown toenails to baldness. They got off easy and were asked very nicely by the government to stop poisoning people. Another large company that you may have heard of comes to mind, Sharper Image, they produced a unit called the Ionic Breeze. They were found guilty of not being truthful about their ozone output and it ended up costing them over \$220,000,000.00 from class action and civil lawsuits. They are no longer in business. With all of this said lets get to the point at hand. I have heard from restoration companies and restoration equipment dealers that while they were being demoed a “Hydroxyl Generator” they smelled ozone and got a headache. The comeback from the equipment salesman when he was confronted with these concerns was that even though it smells like ozone, it was not, and is a by product of the hydroxyls and the headache is from them not being use to “Clean Air”. One of these units was sent to us for ozone output testing and it was tested by three different processes. This unit did indeed test positive for ozone with the levels being way above the government established allowable limits. So do yourself, your workers and your customers a favor. If you think you smell ozone you should have your equipment tested for ozone output to make sure that nobody is being adversely affected by your cleanup process, and shame on those manufactures that are making a profit based on lies and damaging people's health.

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