



Every day, Clark Seif Clark professionals are deployed across the nation helping both large and small customers resolve health & safety, industrial hygiene, environmental and indoor air quality issues.

At a moment's notice, Clark Seif Clark can send their experts anywhere they are needed. No matter if it's in response to a hurricane, wildfire, flood, tornado, or other natural disaster, Clark Seif Clark is ready to help and can respond in no time at all.

Employment Opportunities: CSC is currently looking to add industrial hygienists and asbestos consultants/technicians to their team at their Los Angeles and Long Beach offices. Contact thebert@csceng.com for more information or to submit a resume.

Identifying and Preventing Exposure Risks to the Growing Number of Superbugs

Last month, for only the fourth time in its history, the United Nations General Assembly took up a health issue and voted to take a broad and coordinated approach to confront antimicrobial resistance. The historic action by the United Nations was due to the growing list of drug-resistant microorganisms that are now found across the globe, including in United States.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that on any given day, about 1 in 25 hospital patients has at least one healthcare-associated infection (HAI). Many of these HAIs are caused by drug-resistant pathogens. A number of these pathogens were once considered to be predominately healthcare-associated infections, but many are now also commonly acquired in community settings. While some of these are primarily spread from direct person-to-person contact, many others are known to spread when people come into contact with contaminated surfaces and other materials.

"Although some people are at greater risk than others of antibiotic-

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resistant infections, no one can completely avoid the risk," said Derrick A. Denis, Vice President of IEQ at Clark Seif Clark (CSC). "Infections from drug-resistant organisms are difficult to treat, requiring costly and sometimes toxic alternative treatment options. These are all reasons why surface cleaning, disinfection, and careful personal and occupational hygiene are so crucial for high risk environments such as hospitals, daycare centers, nursing homes and other locations with people who may have an undeveloped, suppressed or weakened immune system."

The indoor environmental quality (IEQ) and microbial pathogen experts at Clark Seif Clark offer surface, air, water and material testing and consulting services to identify microbial contaminants. These services are instrumental for confirming cleaning and disinfection procedures, identifying potential exposure risks and for pinpointing the likely sources of infections at a site.

CSC also recently sponsored an educational video that discusses the CDC's 2013 list of the biggest drug-resistant microorganisms that can be seen here:



To learn more about environmental pathogen testing or other environmental, indoor air quality, occupational, health and safety services, please visit www.csceng.com, email csc@csceng.com or call (800) 807-1118.

PCB-Containing Caulk Found in Many Homes and Buildings

Caulking is a common building material found in virtually all homes and buildings. The flexible material is used to seal gaps and joints to make them water and airtight. Unfortunately, many caulking materials used in the past to build and renovate residential and commercial properties contained polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

According to research conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), "Caulk put in place between 1950 and

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Is It Safe?

1979 may contain as much as 40 percent PCBs and can emit PCBs into the surrounding air. PCBs from caulk may also contaminate adjacent materials such as masonry or wood."

Concerns over PCBs in caulking materials made headlines just last month when a decision was handed down by a U.S. District Court Judge regarding an ongoing lawsuit initiated by public health advocates and parents against the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. The lawsuit resulted after the discovery of PCB-containing caulks at several of the district's schools.

Most people don't recognize the potential for worker and occupant exposure in cases where aging caulking materials could contaminate surrounding materials, dusts and even the indoor air. When renovation, remodeling and demolition activities take place, these occurrences can disturb and aerosolize contaminated particulates into the air which can settle on building surfaces and contents if the proper safety precautions are not put in place.

The only way to know if old caulking materials contain PCBs is to have them tested. The indoor environmental quality professionals at CSC offer PCB testing services for caulking materials as well as other common indoor sources. These include some old paints, mastics, adhesives, specialty coatings and fluorescent light ballasts.

To learn more about PCBs or other indoor air quality, material, environmental, occupational, health and safety services, please visit www.csceng.com , email csc@csceng.com or call (800) 807-1118.

About Clark Seif Clark: CSC was established in 1989 to help clients in both the public and private sectors address environmental issues. CSC is a leading provider of these services with multiple offices along the western seaboard and southwest. The company believes in science-based protocols and has a strong background in engineering making them the preferred environmental consultants to healthcare facilities, architects, schools, builders, contractors, developers and real estate professionals.