



SLS Lighting

22 West 2nd Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA, V5Y 1B3

Tel: (604) 874-2226 Fax: (604) 682-3705 E-mail: Derek.Sousa@sls-lighting.com

Media Contact/Publicist:
Derek Sousa

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
December 6th, 2007

UV-C LIGHTING WILL STOP THE SPREAD OF SUPERBUG INFECTIONS HEALTHCARE FACILITIES WILL REAP IN THE BENEFITS

Vancouver, British Columbia – The spread of superbugs can be stopped with the use of UV-C lighting in health care facilities which in turn will save lives and hospitals money too. Nosocomial infections, a patient who receives an infection while being treated for an unrelated ailment, has increased by 17 percent in Vancouver Coastal Health facilities as stated in their 2006-2007 fiscal year review. These superbug infections, those resistant to antibiotics such as methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), have become a major global setback within the medical community but placement of UV-C lighting fixtures can combat the transmission of these life threatening microorganisms. Unfortunately, these fixtures have not become commonplace within public institutions, including health care facilities, even though numerous benefits are associated with its implementation.

The germicidal effects of UV-C light have been known since the early 1900's. Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation (UVGI) is a process that involves exposing biological contaminants to UV-C light. This shortwave light deactivates DNA in bacteria, viruses and other pathogens, thus destroying their ability to multiply and cause disease. Bacteria, molds, fungi, and other toxins are eliminated when UVGI fixtures are used inside a building's ventilation systems or near ceiling surfaces, since air travels through convection which forces them to pass through the UV light. In fact, one cough projects 100,000 droplets containing bacteria and viruses. Imagine how, via a building's ventilation system, these bugs simply travel from floor to floor. Chuck Dunn, President of Lumalier; a manufacturer of UVGI products, states that "implementing these fixtures stops the spread of disease that results in healthier patients, leading to shorter hospital stays, which ultimately leads to reduced medical costs". Additionally, medical staff are at a lower risk in contracting serious infections from their patients and surroundings.

UVGI products are not a stand alone item and must be coupled with regular sanitization practices. It is virtually impossible for maintenance staff to clean every possible surface within a room and as such UVGI products degenerate whatever microbes are left behind. Additionally, spaces such as surgical rooms, laboratories, locker rooms, washrooms and ambulances have equipment that harbour bacteria but are difficult to clean. The equipment may also block areas that require regular cleaning. New innovative products, such as Lumalier's Tru-D, allow maintenance staff members to zap a room with UV-C light for a brief period of time to ensure that no superbug has been left behind after the room has been cleaned.

In British Columbia, Lumalier's UV-C products are represented by SLS Lighting, a Vancouver-based lighting agency established in 1985. Lumalier is the recognized leader in advanced UV Germicidal Air Disinfection products designed to benefit the healthcare, educational, institutional, commercial, office and residential markets. Lumalier is the industry benchmark for safe, healthy air disinfection. UVGI is a proven technology that has been employed by hospitals and government agencies for more than 75 years.

-30-

For more information, photos or interviews please contact:

Derek Sousa, Specifications Coordinator

Tel: (604) 874-2226 Fax: (604) 874-4949 E-mail: Derek.Sousa@sls-lighting.com