UV Cooling Coil Disinfection

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1. Executive Summary

This report reviews the history and current literature on ultraviolet germicidal irradiation (UVGI) cooling coil disinfection and summarizes the available information on laboratory and field testing of such installations. Information on the energy savings and payback period of cooling coil irradiation are provided along with an example of the computation of a typical payback period. Guidelines on cooling coil irradiation systems are summarized for use.

Reports in the literature and from sources in the industry indicate that the disinfection of cooling coils with UV is so effective that pay back periods of about 2-4 years are possible. That is, the cleaning action of UV on fouled coils is so effective that the reduced maintenance costs and the savings in energy are so significant that the retrofit of a UV cooling coil cleaning system typically pays for itself in about 2-4 years. The energy savings results from two effects – the first being the reduced pressure loss through the coils once the fouling is removed, and the second being the increased rate of heat transfer in the coils when the fouling film is gone. Both of these can be significant, as can the reduction or elimination of maintenance for the cooling coils. Since the coils will be maintained in a clean condition, there is likely to be no requirement for periodic cleaning of the coils.

The elimination of microbiological fouling of the cooling coils can be demonstrated through surface sampling before and after installation of the UV system. An alternative indicator of the effectiveness of UVGI may be coil performance, since the elimination of surface contamination should theoretically restore cooling coil performance to original design values.



2. Introduction and Background

The effects of ultraviolet light on microorganisms were discovered in the 1800s and several scientific studies on UV were published over a century ago. The first studies that attempted to quantify the effects of UV irradiation of microorganisms were published in the 1920s (Bedford 1927, Gates 1929). In these studies the disinfection rates for bacteria were determined in terms of the UV irradiance and dose. Luckiesh et al (1949) appears to have been the first to publish usable data on the irradiation of molds.

By 1950 it had been established that UV irradiation was effective at disinfecting both air and surfaces, and engineering applications were being developed. General Electric catalogs detailed many UV applications including various methods of installing UV lamps inside ducts and air conditioners (Buttolph and Haynes 1950, GE 1950). At this time it was not generally known that mold growth on cooling coils could cause respiratory problems. In 1954 it was demonstrated by Harstad et al (1954) that installation of UV lamps in air conditioners would reduce airborne contamination. It was further noted in this published study that microorganisms were impinging upon internal AHU surfaces.

It had been realized as early as 1958 that bacteria could grow on cooling coils (Walter 1969). The first evidence that air cooling equipment could actually cause respiratory infections was presented by Anderson (1959) when an air cooling apparatus was found to be contaminated with microbial growth. This very same concern had been raised in hospital environments since about 1944 but the possibility of growth of bacteria on air-conditioning cooling coils wasn't conclusively demonstrated until 1964 (Cole et al 1964). The growth of microbes on other equipment like filters and dust inside air-conditioning ducts was first demonstrated by Whyte (1968). The fact that microbes growing in air handling equipment could be disseminated by ventilation systems and cause respiratory infections became widely recognized in the late 1960s and early 1970s in both the medical and engineering fields (Banaszak et al 1970, Schicht 1972, Zeterberg 1973). It was widely known at this time that microbial growth could occur anywhere that air came into contact with moisture (Gunderman 1980, Ager and Tickner 1983, Spendlove and Fannin 1983).

The first UVGI system designed specifically for disinfecting the surfaces of air handling equipment, including humidifier water and filters, was detailed by Grun and Pitz (1974). Luciano (1977) published a book detailing many applications of UVGI, including health care applications in which the UV lamps are specifically placed upstream of the cooling coils and downstream of the filters.

By the late 1970s it was understood that UVGI could be used to control microbial growth inside air handling equipment. In 1985 Phillips published a design guide in which the first definitive description of applications of UV lamps for the control of microbial growth on cooling coils were presented (Philips 1985). This design guide, "Germicidal Lamps and Applications" provides details of how to locate lamps at specific distances form cooling coils, and referred to





installations that were already in operation at the time. Apparently, Europeans had been using such systems prior to 1985 but no publications exist to document such applications.

In January of 1996 the first UVGI system in the U.S. designed for controlling microbial growth on cooling coils was installed by Public Service of Omaha (PSO) in Tulsa. Tom McKain of PSO reports that the idea of irradiating their fouled cooling coils came both from Dr. Richard Shaughnessy of Tulsa University (TU), and from a European professor who could not be identified (Kowalski 2003). PSO hired Steril-Aire to implement the system, which was found to be highly effective after studies by TU researchers. Steril-Aire later filed a patent, claiming they had invented the application of UVGI to microbial growth control.

Table 1 summarizes the critical events described previously insofar as they can be assigned any specific dates.

Table 1: Chronology of UVGI Systems Development

Years	Event						
1870 (circa)	Bactericidal Effects of UV light discovered						
1877	First demonstration of UV water disinfection (AWWA 1971)						
1909	First UV applications for water disinfection						
1916	First USA applications of UV for water disinfection						
1020e	First studies on air and surface disinfection with UV (Bedford 1927,						
19203	Gates 1929)						
1936	First hospital air disinfection application (Hart 1936)						
1937	First school air disinfection application (Wells 1955)						
1011	Concerns first raised about microbial growth on cooling coils in						
1344	hospitals (Cole 1964)						
1949	Luckiesh demonstrates UV disinfection of mold on surfaces						
1050	GE catalogs recommend placing UV lamps inside air conditioning						
1950	units (Buttolph and Haynes 1950, GE 1950)						
1054	Harstad et al (1954) demonstrate effectiveness of UV inside air						
1904	conditioners						
1059	Microbial growth on air conditioners linked to respiratory problems						
1900	(Anderson 1959, Walter 1969)						
1069	Growth of microbes on filters and dust inside air-conditioning ducts						
1900	was first demonstrated by Whyte (1968).						
10700	Microbial growth on cooling coils becomes widely recognized						
19705	(Banaszak et al 1970, Schicht 1972, Zeterberg 1973)						
1074	Grun and Pitz detail the use of UV for internal AHU surface						
1974	disinfection						
1077	Luciano details installation of UV lamps in air handling units						
1977	downstream of filters and upstream of cooling coils						
	Conditions for microbial growth inside HVAC equipment quantified						
1980s	(Gunderman 1980, Ager and Tickner 1983, Spendlove and Fannin						
	1983)						
pre-1985	First cooling coil disinfection systems installed in Europe						
1985	Phillips catalog details cooling coil disinfection system installation						
aarly 1000a	Disinfection of cooling coils is widely understood and discussed by						
early 1990s	researchers						
1005	Dr. Richard Shaughnessy discusses cooling coil irradiation at a						
1995	seminar, attended by Public Service of Oklahoma (PSO)						
	PSO contracts Steril-Aire to install cooling coil disinfection system						
January, 1996	based on recommendations from others						
Fabruary 1000	Staril Aira makes alaims to have invested seeling sail UV disinfaction						
rebluary, 1996	Steni-Aire makes claims to have invented cooling coil UV disinfection						



3. Microbial Disinfection Model

A microbial population subject to UV exposure will tend to decay exponentially over time. The survival fraction at any time t after exposure can be defined by the following single stage exponential decay equation:

$$S = e^{-kt} \tag{1}$$

where k = UV rate constant, $cm^2/\mu J$

Figure 1 illustrates the exponential decay curve on a logarithmic scale with various values of k. The slope of the logarithmic decay curve (the slope of the line in Figure 1) is called the rate constant. The rate constant will determine how fast the population decreases under exposure. The value of the rate constant depends on both the species and the UV irradiance.



Figure 1: Survival curves for various rate constants.

The rate constant determines how fast the microbial population decays under the influence of UV. The UV irradiation may vary in intensity. The variation of irradiance is accounted for by a multiplier designated I. The classic exponential decay equation is then written as:

$$S = e^{-kIt} \tag{2}$$

In the form shown in equation (2), the rate constant k is known as the standard rate constant and it represents the susceptibility of the species for unit intensity only. In general, k is unique to each species. Often the quantity 'It' is combined into a single term called the dose. The dose can therefore be defined as:

$$\mathsf{D} = \mathsf{I}\mathsf{t} \tag{3}$$



When the dose is defined as in equation (3), the exponential decay equation is simply written as:

$$S = e^{-kD} \tag{4}$$

Sometimes a microbial population under UV exposure behaves as if it is two separate populations – one that succumbs rapidly and another that resists the factor. This effect has often been referred to as tailing or as nonlogarithmic survivor curves (Fujikawa and Itoh 1996, Moats et el 1971). Under these conditions the result is a two-stage decay curve. The two-stage curve is treated mathematically as if it were two distinct and separate populations that are simply added together. Each population has a unique rate constant, denoted by k_1 and k_2 . The fraction of the population that is resistant is denoted by f, while the complementary fraction is denoted by (1-f), as follows:

$$S = (1 - f)e^{-k_1 It} + f e^{-k_2 It}$$
(5)

Figure 2 shows a survival curve fitted to equation (7.12) based on UVGI data for *Streptococcus pyogenes*. The curve was fitted by splitting equation (5) into two halves and fitting them individually to the split data set. The intercept of the second stage provided the population fraction.



Figure 2: Survival of *Streptococcus pyogenes* under UVGI exposure. Two stage curves fitted to data from Lidwell (1949).



Data on two stage decay curves is limited and most of the available data for UVGI disinfection is for single stage curves only. A summary of microbial rate constants is provided in Appendix A.

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4. Cooling Coil Disinfection Model

In typical cooling coil disinfection systems, a UV lamp, or array of UV lamps, is positioned so as to irradiate a coil surface. In the example shown in Figure 3 UV lamps are positioned so as to irradiate both the upstream and downstream sides of a cooling coil. Often, it is not possible to position lamps on both sides of a coil like this and only one side is irradiated. Lamps are often positioned in a crossflow arrangement in which the axis of the lamp runs perpendicular to the fins of the coil. The orientation of the lamp is not necessarily critical and lamps may be positioned horizontally, vertically, or at any angle relative to the coil surface. Lamp position will impact the irradiance levels at the coil surface but adjusting the total wattage, number of lamps, reflectivity, and other factors can compensate for less than optimum positioning of the lamp.



Figure 3: Air handling unit with UV lamps irradiating both upstream and downstream sides of the cooling coil.

When a single lamp is positioned with its axis parallel to the coil surface, the irradiance at any point on the coil surface can be determined using the view factor model of the lamp as a cylinder, as detailed by Kowalski et al (2000). Computer algorithms for this view factor model have been provided by Kowalski (2001 & 2003). The view factor model has been demonstrated to provide fairly accurate agreement with actual lamp irradiance measurements. Alternate lamp models have been proposed by others but there is either limited agreement with lamp data or a lack of quantitative data on the models (IESNA 2000, Krasnochub 2005). The view factor model can be used to generate irradiance profiles and contours such as those shown in Figure 4 and Figure 5, in which a single cylindrical lamp irradiates a rectangular cooling coil surface. The peak irradiance can be seen as a blunt outline of the cylindrical lamp.





Figure 4: Example of irradiance profile on a cooling coil surface (x-y axes) from a single UV lamp located a short distance away.



Figure 5: Irradiance contour on the cooling coil face (x-y axes) from the example in Figure 4.



Placing a UV lamp in front of a cooling coil entrance or exit plane will produce an irradiance contour on the leading edges or exit edges of the coil fins similar to that of Figure 5. Only the front surface (or back surface) irradiance levels can be predicted with certainty because determination of the irradiance within the cooling coil fins is an exceedingly complex problem that involves a limited field view factor and the reflective characteristics of the fins and coil tubes. At present, predictions of the surface irradiance must suffice as an indicator of the adequacy of UV exposure levels, but photometer measurements can also be used to confirm irradiance levels upstream and downstream. The ultimate confirmation of the adequacy of UV irradiance levels can only be obtained via surface sampling for spores. An alternative indicator of the effectiveness of UVGI may be coil performance, since the elimination of surface contamination should theoretically restore cooling coil performance to original design values.

Under UV exposure, the disinfection of cooling coil surfaces follows the basic mathematical decay models detailed in the previous section. Because the exposure times are extended in these types of surface disinfection systems, it is appropriate to use the two-stage decay equation to define the disinfection rates. The reason is that if a second stage does exist (i.e. for any mold or bacterial spore) it will likely become the only remaining stage after relatively brief initial exposure period. That is, the first stage will show rapid decay, after which only the second stage remains. Since the second stage becomes dominant in the long run, it is a better predictor than the single stage rate constant. However, few second stage rate constants are known with any certainty and predictive methods generally rely on theoretical values.

Figure 6 shows an example of a two stage decay curve of *Aspergillus niger* compared with predictions from a single stage model. The single stage model (in red) shows a log-linear decrease in microbial population over time, while the two-stage model (in blue) shows a second stage (a tail) becoming dominant after about 1000 seconds. It is clear that after extended exposure the single stage model will grossly overpredict the survival rate of the spores. This two stage behavior under prolonged exposure is typical for most microbes and indicates the need to use the two stage model when evaluating cooling coil surface disinfection. Data for the single stage is based on IESNA (2000) while the two stage curve is based on laboratory data from UVDI (2000).





Figure 6: Comparison of a single stage model vs. a two stage model of the inactivation of Aspergillus spores under UV exposure of 50µW/cm². The single stage model will underestimate the required dose for sterilization.

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5. Performance of Cooling Coil Disinfection Systems

Although studies on the inactivation of mold spores and inhibition of mold growth by UV abound in the literature, information on the actual disinfection of cooling coils remains limited and reports of successful disinfection are primarily anecdotal, although some formal studies are underway (EPRI 2004, Shaughnessy et al 1999). There is, however, no reason to believe that the anecdotal reports are not accurate, and the indications are that disinfection of cooling coils with UV is so effective that payback periods of about 2-4 years are possible. That is, the cleaning of the coils under UV exposure proceeds so rapidly that fouled coils are restored to pristine condition and save energy and maintenance costs so effectively that the retrofit of a UV coil cleaning system pays for itself in about 2-4 years.

Theoretically, continuous exposure of cooling coil surfaces to UV should result in eradication of virtually all surface contamination within a few hours or days, depending on the irradiance levels. That is, any contamination on the exposed surface of the coils (entrance or exit respectively) should be sterilized rapidly. Figure 7 shows a system for which surface samples taken by the author indicated virtual sterilization of the leading edges after two weeks of operation.



Figure 7: A UVGI system installed in front (upstream) of a cooling coil that sterilized the front face of the coil after two weeks of operation.



Contamination on the internal surfaces of the cooling coil fins should also be sterilized over time, but it is difficult to predict how much time this might require. It does appear that, based on anecdotal field reports, that a few weeks or months is all that is required to restore coils to original design operating conditions, suggesting that internal coil contamination is sterilized in these time periods.

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6. Economics of Cooling Coil Disinfection Systems

The economic savings that can result from the installation of a UV cooling coil disinfection system can be estimated by comparing the operating costs after installation with the operating costs before installation, minus the cost of installing and operating the UV system. Ideally, operating data would be drawn from field test results, but this necessitates installing such a system first. Little published data is available for installed systems but anecdotal evidence suggests that UV disinfection systems are fully capable of restoring a fouled cooling coil to approximately the original design operating conditions. The cost savings will then depend on how much coil fouling has occurred and how far the system capacity has been diminished in comparison with the original design conditions. Table 1 summarizes the basic costs and the basic savings of UV cooling coil disinfection systems.

Costs	Savings
First Cost of installation	Fan energy savings
Operating Cost of UVGI	Cooling energy savings
Maintenance costs of UVGI	Maintenance savings

Table 1: Costs vs. Savings of Cooling Coil Disinfection

The first cost of the UVGI system will always be known, as will the operating and maintenance costs, which consist of electrical energy consumption and lamp replacement. The heat added to the system by the lamps is generally negligible and can be ignored, and furthermore, in cold climates the heat becomes a credit but this will also be ignored. The energy savings will result from two effects, the first being the reduced pressure drop through the coils once the fouling is removed, and the second being the increased rate of heat transfer from the coils when the fouling film is gone. Both of these can be significant, as can the reduction or elimination of maintenance on the cooling coils. Since the coils will be maintained in a clean condition, there is likely to be no requirement for periodic cleaning of the coils. In fact, since the UV system will maintain the coils in pristine condition, the lifetime of the coil will likely be extended well beyond the normal lifespan of unirradiated cooling coils, but this aspect of the savings will be difficult to quantify until field data is accumulated from installations.

In order to estimate cost savings, it is necessary to assume that 1) the cooling coil is fouled, which is usually true if a system is being considered, and 2) the fouling will be completely eliminated and the coils restored to design condition, which is reportedly the usual case. Alternatively, a UV system may be installed on a brand new cooling coil, in which case the savings would have to be estimated based on the projected rate of fouling.

The cost savings in dollars of a UV cooling coil disinfection system can be written as:

$$Savings = (FE_{F} - FE_{C}) + (CE_{F} - CE_{C}) + (M_{F} - M_{C}) - FC_{uv} - OC_{uv} - MC_{uv}$$
(1)



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where FE_F = Fan Energy cost, Fouled (\$) FE_C = Fan Energy cost, Clean (\$) CE_F = Cooling Energy cost, Fouled (\$) CE_C = Cooling Energy cost, Clean (\$) M_F = Maintenance cost, Fouled (\$) M_C = Maintenance cost, Clean (\$) FC_{uv} = First Cost of UV (\$) OC_{uv} = Operating Cost of UV (\$) M_C = Maintenance Cost of UV (\$)

The fan energy in kW is computed as follows:

$$FE = \frac{dP \cdot CFM}{6350(0.75 \cdot 0.75)} \cdot 0.7355$$
(2)

where dP = pressure drop, in.w.g. CFM = airflow, cfm 0.7355 = conversion factor from BHP to kW 0.75 = typical motor efficiency 0.75 = typical fan efficiency 6350 = conversion factor (in.w.g-cfm) to BHP

The fan energy savings is then the fan energy in the operating condition (fouled coils) minus the fan energy under design conditions.

The cooling energy savings in kW is computed as follows:

$$CE = \left(\frac{CL}{3412 \cdot COP}\right) \tag{3}$$

where CL = the capacity loss due to fouling, Btuh COP = Coefficient of Performance 3412 = conversion from Btuh to kW

The COP can be computed as the seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER) divided by 3.412. The typical value for the SEER is about 9 or 10, and the respective COP would be about 2.64 - 2.93.

The maintenance cost Before, M_B , can vary and depends on local facility procedures. Cooling coil maintenance is typically a few hours of labor a year, and may vary from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars. A reasonable estimate for small cooling coil units might be about M_B = \$500 a year. Presumably, there will be no maintenance cost After, or M_A = 0.

The first cost of the UV system, FCuv, will be established at the beginning of any project and no estimates can be provided. The operating cost, OC_{uv} , of the UV system is simply the electrical energy consumed by the lamp and ballast. The energy cost can be written as follows:



$$OC = \frac{W \cdot 8760}{1000} P_c$$

(4)

where W = total watts of power consumed by lamp fixture P_c = power charge (typically 0.08 – 0.1 \$/kWh) 8760 = hours of operation per year (continuous assumed) 1000 = conversion from kW to W

The maintenance cost of the UV system consists of the annual replacement of the UV lamps, which is simply the cost per lamp times the number of lamps. This cannot be estimated in advance and will depend on the particular project.

Application of the above equations can be demonstrated through an example of a typical cooling coil disinfection system. Consider a system with the following parameters:

- Airflow, cfm 48,500CFM
- Cooling Coil leaving air temperature: 52 degrees F.
- Cooling Coil pressure drop, 0.75 in.w.g.
- UV wattage 552W UVC output.
- UV lamp fixture first cost \$3,528 per total number of fixtures per coil.
- UV lamp installation labor cost, \$1000.
- UV lamp replacement bulb cost \$1,800 annually.
- Annual hours of cooling approximately 4,500 hours per year.
- Cost per kWh, \$0.09.
- COP = 4.1 (typical for chilled water system)
- Cooling Load (design), 1,500,000 Btuh (assumed)

Keikavousi (2004) reports that a 27 year old system retrofitted with UV had a reduction in fan static pressure from 1.8 iwg to 0.7 iwg. The fan energy in our example above assumes only a fouled condition of 0.9 iwg, reducing to 0.75 after UV installation. The fan energy under design conditions is:

$$FE = \frac{0.75 \cdot 48,500}{6350(0.75 \cdot 0.75)} \cdot 0.7355 = 7.49 \text{ kW}$$

The fan energy under fouled conditions (assumed 0.9 in.w.g.) is:

$$FE = \frac{0.9 \cdot 48,500}{6350(0.75 \cdot 0.75)} \cdot 0.7355 = 8.988 \,\text{kW}$$

The fan energy savings (Fouled-Clean) is:



 $FE_{F-C} = (8.988 - 7.49)4500 \cdot 0.09 = 607$ \$

The cooling energy (design operating conditions) is:

$$CE = \left(\frac{1,500,000}{3412 \cdot 4.1}\right) = 107.2 \text{ kW}$$

Assuming a 20% loss due to fouling, the energy savings would be:

$$CE_{F-C} = (0.20 \cdot 107.2) \cdot 4500 \cdot 0.09 = 8685$$

The operating costs are:

$$OC = \frac{552 \cdot 8760}{1000} 0.09 = 435 \,$$

The total savings can then be summed up as follows, assuming \$1000 in maintenance savings:

$$Savings = (607) + (8685) + (1000) - 3528 - 435 - 1800 = 4529$$

The payback (PB) period can be approximated by dividing the initial cost by the annual savings as follows:

$$PB = \frac{3528}{4529} = 0.8$$
 years

Some examples of estimates of the savings that might be accrued from the use of cooling coil disinfection systems in health care facilities are provided in Appendix D and Appendix E. In Appendix D summaries for six facilities are provided showing inpatient and outpatient occupancies, number of clinical procedure rooms and number of procedures performed. Appendix E provides estimated costs for cooling coil disinfection systems, in-duct UV systems, and operating room UV systems, along with estimated savings based on assumptions regarding nosocomial infection rates and operating costs. Although the available data on nosocomial infection rates due to airborne infections is not specific enough to isolate the true savings that might be anticipated, the ball-park figures provided in Appendix E clearly show the potential savings are great and that payback periods computed from these estimates would be in the range of 1-2 years or less, similar to the payback periods demonstrated previously.

There are some aspects of the savings that could be expected in health care facilities that cannot be generalized or quantified exactly, such as the reduction in worker illness (nosocomial worker illnesses are an ongoing problem in health care facilities for which rates and costs are unknown at present), and possible reductions in insurance costs once such air cleaning systems are installed. The estimated costs in these examples, including the labor costs and energy costs, are based on assumptions and should not be construed to



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represent the actual costs for any specific installation, which need to be independently determined. The geographic area can also impact the energy costs through climate. One related report, that addresses air cleaning and bioterrorism, is a guideline from FEMA on the subject of insurance costs that may also be used to address reductions of naturally occurring diseases and possible savings from UV (FEMA 2003). UV may also allow for the use of lower pressure drop filters (ACEEE 2005).

Nosocomial infections include many diverse diseases, the sources and etiology of which are uncertain at present. Table 3 summarizes nosocomial agents that have the potential to transmit by the airborne route. The majority of nosocomial agents are potentially airborne, although most of the actual transmission is probably through direct contact (Kowalski 2005). The degree to which a cooling coil disinfection system will decrease nosocomial infections is probably quite limited, although the cost savings alone should justify such systems in any health care facility. The degree to which air and surface disinfection systems can reduce nosocomial infections is much more quantifiable, and a number of studies have been performed in this regard.

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AIRBORNE PATHOGEN	TYPE	PRIMARY INFECTION CAUSED	Annual	Annual
	=		Cases	Fatalities
Varicella-zoster virus	С	chickenpox	common	250
Streptococcus pyogenes	С	scarlet fever, pharyngitis	213,962	-
Streptococcus pneumoniae	С	lobar pneumonia, sinusitis, meningitis	500,000	50000
Staphylococcus aureus	E	staphylococcal pneumonia, opportunistic	2,750	-
Serratia marcescens	E	bacteremia, endocarditis, pneumonia.	479	-
SARS virus	С	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome	(10)	(?)
Rubella virus	С	rubella (German measles)	3,000	none
Rhizopus stolonifer	NC	zygomycosis, allergic reactions	rare	-
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	С	pneumonia, bronchiolitis	common	rare
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	NC	pneumonia	2,626	-
Pneumocystis carinii	NC	pneumocystosis	rare	rare
Parainfluenza virus	С	flu, colds, croup, pneumonia	common	-
Nocardia brasiliensis	NC	nocardiosis	uncommon	-
Nocardia asteroides	NC	nocardiosis	uncommon	rare
Mycobacterium tuberculosis	С	tuberculosis, TB	20,000	-
Mucor plumbeus	NC	mucormycosis, rhinitis	rare	rare
Moraxella	Е	otitis media, opportunistic	rare	0
Measles virus	С	measles (rubeola)	500,000	rare
Legionella pneumophila	NC	Legionnaire's Disease, opportunistic	1,163	10
Klebsiella pneumoniae	E	opportunistic, pneumonia	1,488	-
Influenza A virus	С	flu, secondary pneumonia	2,000,000	20000
Histoplasma capsulatum	NC	histoplasmosis, fever, malaise	common	-
Haemophilus parainfluenzae	E	conjunctivitis, pneumonia, meningitis	common	-
Haemophilus influenzae	С	meningitis, pneumonia, endocarditis	1,162	-
Cryptococcus neoformans	NC	cryptococcosis, cryptococcal meningitis	high	rare
Corynebacterium diphtheriae	С	diphtheria, toxin produced.	10	-
Coccidioides immitis	NC	coccidioidomycosis, valley fever	uncommon	-
Chlamydia pneumoniae	С	pneumonia, bronchitis, pharyngitis	uncommon	-
Cardiobacterium	E	opportunistic infections, endocarditis	rare	-
Burkholderia pseudomallei	NC	meliodosis, opportunistic	rare	rare
Burkholderia mallei	NC	Glanders, fever, opportunistic	-	none
Bordetella pertussis	С	whooping cough	6,564	15
Blastomyces dermatitidis	NC	blastomycosis, Gilchrist's Disease	rare	-
Aspergillus	NC	aspergillosis, alveolitis, asthma	uncommon	-
Alcaligenes	E	opportunistic	rare	rare
Acinetobacter	E	opportunistic/septic, meningitis	147	-

Table 3: Nosocomial Agents with Airborne Transmission Potential

SARS virus

Abbreviations: C = Communicable, NC = Noncommunicable, E=Endogenous. C Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

UVGI systems have been in use in some operating rooms since at least 1937 (Hart and Sanger 1939). Reductions in post-operative infection rates of about 24-44% have been reported (Goldner and Allen 1973). Duke University has successfully used overhead UVGI systems to maintain a low level of orthopedic infections (Lowell et al 1980). Upper room UVGI systems have been used at The New England Deaconess Hospital, The Infant and Children's Hospital in Boston, The Cradle in Evanston, and St. Luke's Hospital in New York, to reduce surgical site infections by a net average of 68%, and for the control of respiratory infections, which decreased by a net average of 50% (Overholt and Betts 1940, Del Mundo and McKhann 1941, Sauer et al 1942, Higgons and Hyde



1947). The Home for Hebrew Infants in New York successfully brought a halt to a Varicella epidemic using UVGI (Wells 1955). Limited mention is made in most health care literature of UVGI, although some recent guidelines have acknowledged its potential effectiveness (CDC 2003, ASHRAE 2003).

A growing list of anecdotal reports, and some clinical studies, have addressed the apparent effectiveness of UVGI systems in health care facilities. These reports address the usefulness of UV in disinfecting cooling coils, reducing energy costs associated with cooling coils, controlling respiratory infections and complaints, sterilizing sources of TB, SARS, and other bacteria and viruses, addressing bioterrorism concerns, and controlling mold in homes. A summary of these reports, culled from engineering trade magazines, journals, Internet and paper news media, and private reports has been included in Appendix F.

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7. Guidelines for Cooling Coil Disinfection Systems

Several guidelines have been recently introduced, or are in preparation that address the use of UV for either cooling coil disinfection or air disinfection (GSA 2003, NIOSH 2005, IUVA 2005). Based on the literature, including draft guidelines from IUVA (2005), and the analysis previously presented, certain basic design guidelines can be summarized. These are as follows:

- <u>Guidelines for Cooling Coil Disinfection</u>
- Minimum Filtration: MERV 6
- Recommended Filtration: MERV 8-11
- Maximum air velocity of between 400-500 fpm
- Maximum air temperature between 40°F-110°F
- Maximum ballast operating temperature of 40°C or 50°C (104°F or 122°F) depending on ballast
- Lamp placement: upstream, downstream, or both sides of coils
- Lamp distance from coil face: 1-4 feet (30-120 cm)
- Exposed Coil Surface:
 - \circ Recommended coil average irradiance: 50-500 μ W/cm²
 - \circ Minimum coil irradiance: 50 μ W/cm²
 - $_{\odot}$ Minimum coil irradiance in any corner or side: 10 $\mu W/cm^{2}$
- Opposite Coil Surface (if unexposed)
 - Recommended coil average irradiance: 50-100 μW/cm²
 - $\circ~$ Minimum coil average irradiance: 10 $\mu W/cm^2$
 - \circ Minimum coil irradiance in any corner or side: 1 μ W/cm²

The above recommendations are preliminary (per IUVA 2005) and should not be considered to be strict requirements as these matters are still under study. In addition to the above guidelines, it is recommended that UV lamp ballasts be placed externally if possible, or, if placed internally, be shielded from any heat sources. All electrical wiring should be in accordance with UL/ETL requirements. Alarms or disconnect switches should be included to disengage the UV lamps if an access door is opened. Warning signs should be placed in the vicinity and proper training given to maintenance personnel. UV lamps should be handled with care and used lamps disposed of in accordance with regulations regarding mercury content.

As verification of coil disinfection, surface sampling for fungi and/or bacteria could be performed before UV lamp installation, and then follow-up testing could be performed about 2 weeks or any time later. Major reductions in coil contaminants would suggest effective disinfection while the absence of all fungal contamination would indicate complete sterilization. As an alternative to microbiological testing, coil performance could be monitored over time to verify that the cooling coil heat transfer and pressure drop characteristics are being returned to design conditions, a process that requires an unknown amount of time, but for highly fouled coils it may require weeks or months.



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Appendix A: UVGI Rate Constants for Pathogens.							
		Test	Test	Rate Constant			
Microorganism	Reference	Medium	Irradiance				
		Air/Plt/Wtr	uW/cm ²	cm²/uJ			
Adenovirus	Jensen 1964	Δ	8749	0.000546			
	Painbow 1973	P	800	0.000040			
Adenovirus Type 2		F	8740	0.004700			
Vaccinia	Jensen 1964	A	8749	0.001528			
2	Galasso 1965	P	33	0.001542			
Coxsackievirus B-1	Jensen 1964	A	8749	0.001108			
	Hill 1970	W	83	0.002817			
Coxsackievirus A-9	Hill 1970	W	83	0.001621			
Influenza A	Jensen 1964	A	8749	0.001187			
	Westinghouse data		1	0.001047			
Echovirus	Hill 1970	W	83	0.003033			
Reovirus Type 1	Hill 1970	W	83	0.001849			
Staphylococcus aureus	Sharp 1939	Р	1	0.000886			
	Sharp 1940	A	1	0.003476			
	Gates 1929	P	110	0.001184			
		D D	100	0.001104			
04	Absilite 1981	F	100	0.000419			
Streptococcus pyogenes		P	2.0	0.006161			
	Mitscherlich (145)	A	1	0.001066			
Mycobacterium tuberculosis	David 1973	A	4	0.024530			
	Riley 1961	A	1	0.077309			
	Collins 1971	A	40	0.002132			
	Westinghouse data		1	0.000691			
Mycobacterium kansasii	David 1973	A	4	0.035829			
Mycobacterium avium-intra.	David 1973	А	4	0.038841			
E coli (reference)	Sharp 1939	Р	1	0 000927			
	Sharp 1940	Α	1	0.003759			
	Abshiro 1981	X	100	0.000784			
	Zolla (Antenal 1070)	VV	100	0.000204			
On much a stanium diath sais s		V	1	0.001091			
Corynebacterium diptneriae	Sharp 1939	P	1	0.000683			
Moraxella-Acinetobacter	Keller 1982	W	2200	0.000002			
Haemophilus influenzae	Mongold 1992	Р	800	0.000656			
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	Collins 1971	A	40	0.002555			
	Westinghouse data		1	0.000658			
	Abshire 1981	W	100	0.000465			
	Sharp 1940	A	1	0.005721			
	Zelle (Antopol)	W	1	0.000419			
Legionella pneumophila	unidentified Figure		1	0.002047			
- 5	Antopol 1979	W	50	0.002503			
	Westinghouse data		1	0.001818			
Serratia marcescens	Collins 1971	Δ	40	0.002208			
		X	-+0	0.002200			
		VV	1	0.001047			
	Riley (1972)	A	1	0.049900			
	Sharp 1940	A	1	0.004449			
	Sharp 1939	A	1	0.001047			
	Rentschler 1941	A	1	0.001225			
Bacillus anthraci (w/spores)	Sharp 1939	Р	1	0.000509			
Bacillus anthraci (spores)	Westinghouse data		1	0.000794			
Cryptococcus neoformans	Wang 1994	Р	1	0.000102			
Mucor racemosus spores	Scheir 1996		1	0.000135			
Penicillium expensum spores	Scheir 1996		1	0.000177			
Aspergillus niger spores	Scheir 1996		1	0.000017			
Aspergillus flavus spores	Scheir 1996		1	0.000038			
Asperaillus alaucus spores	Scheir 1996		1	0.000052			
Rhizonus nigricans spores	Scheir 1996		1	0.00002			
Fusarium ovvenorum	Asthana 1000	Б	170	0.000021			
Fugarium aglani		r	170	0.000112			
	Astnana 1999	Р	170	0.000071			
Penicilium Italicum	Asthana 1999	P	170	0.000126			
Penicillium digitatum	Asthana 1999	Р	170	0.000072			
Cladosporium	Westinghouse data		1	0.000038			
Scopulariopsis	Westinghouse data		1	0.000029			

Appendix A: UVGI Rate Constants for Pathogens.



UV Cooling Coil Disinfection

Appendix B: Common Indoor Bacteria

PATHOGEN	GROUP	TYPE	DISEASE GROUP	BIOSAFETY LEVEL
Acinetobacter	Bacteria	Gram_	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Actinomyces israelii	Bacteria	Gram+	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Aeromonas	Bacteria	Gram_	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Alcaligenes	Bacteria	Gram_	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Bacteroides fragilis	Bacteria	Gram_	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Bordetella pertussis	Bacteria	Gram_	Communicable	Risk Group 2
Brucella	Bacteria	Gram_	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2-3
Burkholderia cepacia	Bacteria	Gram_	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Burkholderia mallei	Bacteria	Gram_	Non-communicable	Risk Group 3
Burkholderia pseudomallei	Bacteria	Gram_	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2-3
Cardiobacterium	Bacteria	Gram_	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Chlamydia pneumoniae	Bacteria	Gram_	Communicable	Risk Group 2
Chlamydophila psittaci	Bacteria	Gram_	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2-3
Clostridium botulinum	Bacteria	Gram+	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2-4
Clostridium perfringens	Bacteria	Gram+	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Corynebacterium diphtheriae	Bacteria	Gram+	Communicable	Risk Group 2
Enterobacter cloacae	Bacteria	Gram_	Endogenous	Risk Group 1
Enterococcus	Bacteria	Gram+	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1-2
Enterococcus faecalis	Bacteria	Gram+	Endogenous	Risk Group 1
Francisella tularensis	Bacteria	Gram_	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2-3
Haemophilus influenzae	Bacteria	Gram_	Communicable	Risk Group 2
Haemophilus parainfluenzae	Bacteria	Gram_	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Klebsiella pneumoniae	Bacteria	Gram_	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Legionella pneumophila	Bacteria	Gram_	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Listeria monocytogenes	Bacteria	Gram+	Non-communicable	
Moraxella	Bacteria	Gram_	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Mycobacterium avium	Bacteria	Gram+	Non-communicable	Risk Group 3
Mycobacterium kansasii	a kansasii Bacteria		Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Mycobacterium tuberculosis	Bacteria	Gram+ (acid fast)	Communicable	Risk Group 2-3
Mycoplasma pneumoniae	Bacteria	no wall	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Neisseria meningitidis	Bacteria	Gram_	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Proteus mirabilis	Bacteria	Gram_	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	Bacteria	Gram_	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Rickettsia prowazeki	Bacteria	Gram-	Vector-borne	Risk Group 2-3
Rickettsia rickettsii	Bacteria	Gram-	Vector-borne	Risk Group 2-3
Salmonella typhi	Bacteria	Gram-	Food-borne	Risk Group 2
Serratia marcescens	Bacteria	Gram_	Endogenous	Risk Group 1
Shigella	Bacteria	Gram-	Food-borne	Risk Group 2
Staphylococcus aureus	Bacteria	Gram+	Endogenous	Risk Group 2
Staphylococcus epidermis	Bacteria	Gram+	Endogenous	Risk Group 1
Streptococcus pneumoniae	Bacteria	Gram+	Communicable	Risk Group 2
Streptococcus pyogenes	Bacteria	Gram+	Communicable	Risk Group 2
Vibrio cholerae	Bacteria	Gram-	Food-borne	Risk Group 2
Yersinia pestis	Bacteria	Gram_	Communicable	Risk Group 2-3
Coxiella burnetii	Bacteria / Rickettsiae	Gram_	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2-3
Bacillus anthracis	Bacterial Spore	Gram+	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2-3
Micromonospora faeni	Bacterial Spore	Micromonosporaceae	Non-communicable	-
Nocardia asteroides Bacterial Spore		Nocardiaceae	INON-COMMUNICABLE	RISK Group 2
Nocardia brasiliensis Bacterial Spore			Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Saccharopolyspora rectivirgula Bacterial Spore		Nicromonosporaceae	Non-communicable	RISK Group 2
	Bacterial Spore	Micromonosporaceae	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
	Bacterial Spore	Micromonosporaceae	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
mennomonospora viridis	Dacterial Spore	wicromonosporaceae	Non-communicable	RISK Group 1



UV Cooling Coil Disinfection

	Appendix 0. C		ungi	
PATHOGEN	GROUP	PHYLUM	DISEASE GROUP	BIOSAFETY LEVEL
Absidia	Fungal Spore	Zygomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Acremonium	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1-2
Alternaria alternata	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Arthrinium phaeospermum	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Aspergillus	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Aureobasidium pullulans	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Blastomyces dermatitidis	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2-3
Botrytis cinerea	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 3
Candida	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Endogenous	Risk Group 1
Chaetomium globosum	Fungal Spore	Ascomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Cladosporium	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Coccidioides immitis	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 3
Cryptostroma corticale	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Curvularia	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Drechslera	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Emericella nidulans	Fungal Spore	Ascomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Epicoccum nigrum	Fungal Spore	Ascomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Eurotium	Fungal Spore	Ascomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Exophiala	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Fusarium	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Helminthosporium	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Histoplasma capsulatum	Fungal Spore	Ascomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 3
Mucor plumbeus	Fungal Spore	Zygomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Paecilomyces variotii	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Paracoccidioides	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Penicillium	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Phialophora	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Phoma	Fungal Spore	Coelomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Pneumocystis carinii	Fungal Spore	Protozoal	Communicable	Risk Group 1
Rhizomucor pusillus	Fungal Spore	Zygomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Rhizopus stolonifer	Fungal Spore	Zygomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Rhodoturula	Fungal Spore	Blastomycetes	Non-communicable	-
Scopulariopsis	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Sporothrix schenckii	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Stachybotrys chartarum	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1-2
Trichoderma	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Trichophyton	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	
Ulocladium	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Ustilago	Fungal Spore	Basidiomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Verticillium	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	
Wallemia sebi	Fungal Spore	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 1
Cryptococcus neoformans	Fungal Yeast	Hyphomycetes	Non-communicable	Risk Group 2
Trichosporon cutaneum	Fungi/Yeast	Basidiomycetes	Non-communicable	

Appendix C: Common Indoor Fungi



			T acmity C			<u> </u>
Category	Facility 1	Facility 2	Facility 3	Facility 4	Facility 5	Facility 6
General Facility						
Age	21 years	13 years	31 years	40 years	63 years	27 years
Area	193,200 SF	353,000 SF	294,619 SF	134,988 SF	1,000,000 SF	364,400 SF
No. Licensed Beds	149	247	228	108	345	401
Conditions	Good	Good	Poor	Adequate	Poor	Fair
Inpatient						
No. Staffed Beds	172	187	204	74	303	340
Private	38	110	0	10	0	0
Semi-private	84	57	0	44	0	401
Ward	7	7pr.+ 13 NICU	204	20	345	0
Total Admissions	6,864	7,890	6,088	2,637	12,154	21,246
Inpatient Days	30,880	44,513	31,553	15,287	87,354	99,503
Average Daily Census	83	122	149	39	239	273
Percent Occupancy	57	65	73	52	79	80
Routine Beds	108	131	108	54	176	331
Special Care	22	56	22	10	169	46
Nursery	26	44	26	0	0	42
Outpatient						
No. of Exam Rooms	57	124	12	38	190	62
Clinic Visits	110,232	119,399	118,234	61,181	257,795	98,897
Visits per exam room	1,934	1,592	9,852	1,610	1,357	1,595
List of Clinics	13	7	12	23	13	2
ER Visits	57,390	41,822	76,875	42,287	95,951	81,890
ER Treatment Rooms	16	7	26	10	80	20
Facility Needs	Space	Space	Space	Space	Space	Space, toilets
Area	13,205 SF	36,000 SF	51,000 SF	6,715 SF	53,540 SF	
Visits per Room	3,587	5,975	2,956	4,229	1,194	4,095
Clinical						
No. Operating Rooms	4	10	5	4	16	12
O.R. Cases	2,424	3,068	4,780	2,202	11,189	8,959
Cases per O.R.	606	307	956	550	699	747
No. Delivery Rooms	3	3	3	0	0	9
Live Births	948	1,638	1,603	0	0	3,579
Births per Room	316	546	534	0	0	398
No. X-Ray Rooms	9	13	8	6	37	12
X-Ray Equpment	See attached	See attached	See attached	See attached	See attached	See attached
Estimated # of air handlers	23	23	17	23	200	17
Facility Adequacy	Adequate	Adequate	Inadequate	Adequate	Inadequate	Adequate
Major Needs	Labor & Delivery, NICU		Labor & Delivery, NICU, MRI	ER, Clinic, Parking, Storage	New Facility	Space, Privacy, CT Scanner

Appendix D: Health Care Facility Cost Estimates – Part 1



				Ly OUSLI	_stimates		
Category	Facility 1	Facility 2	Facility 3	Facility 4	Facility 5	Facility 6	TOTALS
ESTIMATED COSTS							
Coil Irradiation	\$ 38,318.00	\$ 63,864.00	\$ 54,603.00	\$ 34,486.00	\$ 178,819.00	\$ 64,928.00	\$ 435,018.00
Duct Treatment	\$ 30,959.00	\$ 56,565.00	\$ 47,210.00	\$ 21,631.00	\$ 160,242.00	\$ 58,392.00	\$ 374,999.00
Operating Room	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 224,000.00	\$ 168,000.00	\$ 714,000.00
TOTAL COSTS	\$ 125,277.00	\$ 260,429.00	\$ 171,813.00	\$ 112,117.00	\$ 563,061.00	\$ 291,320.00	\$ 1,524,017.00
Annual Cost	\$ 20,044.32	\$ 41,668.64	\$ 27,490.08	\$ 17,938.72	\$ 90,089.76	\$ 46,611.20	\$ 243,842.72
ANNUAL MAINTENANCE							
ESTIMATED SAVINGS							
PATIENTS							
Nosocomial Infections	\$ 77,200.00	\$ 111,282.50	\$ 78,882.50	\$ 38,217.50	\$ 218,385.00	\$ 248,757.50	\$ 772,725.00
Operating Infections	\$ 36,360.00	\$ 46,020.00	\$ 71,700.00	\$ 33,030.00	\$ 167,835.00	\$ 134,385.00	\$ 489,330.00
Clinic Infections	\$ 110,232.00	\$ 119,399.00	\$ 118,234.00	\$ 61,181.00	\$ 257,795.00	\$ 98,897.00	\$ 765,738.00
Aspergillius	NEED INFO						\$-
STAFF							\$-
Nosocomial Infections	NEED INFO						\$-
Health Care	NEED INFO						\$-
Illness Absentee rate	NEED INFO						\$-
COIL & DUCT CLEANING	\$ 1,725.00	\$ 1,725.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 1,725.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 22,725.00
ENERGY SAVINGS	NEED INFO						\$-
EXTENDED LIFE OF UNITS	NEED INFO						\$-
							\$-
TOTAL SAVINGS YEAR 1	\$ 80,195.68	\$ (23,671.14)	\$ 70,788.42	\$ 4,097.78	\$ 5,864.24	\$ 145,383.30	\$ 282,658.28
TOTAL SAVINGS YEAR 2	\$ 205,472.68	\$ 236,757.86	\$ 242,601.42	\$ 116,214.78	\$ 568,925.24	\$ 436,703.30	\$ 1,806,675.28
TOTAL SAVINGS YEAR 3	\$ 205,472.68	\$ 236,757.86	\$ 242,601.42	\$ 116,214.78	\$ 568,925.24	\$ 436,703.30	\$ 1,806,675.28
LIFETIME SAVINGS 10 YRS	\$1,929,449.80	\$2,107,149.60	\$2,254,201.20	\$1,050,030.80	\$ 5,126,191.40	\$4,075,713.00	\$ 16,542,735.80

Annendiy D: Health Care Facility Cost Estimates – Part 2

Note: Above estimates were based on SSI rate of 3% (NNIS 2000) and an assumed nosocomial infection rate of 0.5% for airborne pathogens.



APPENDIX F: Reports from articles and new sources on UVC effectiveness for improving IAQ and realizing savings from reduced energy and maintenance costs

A recent laboratory study has shown that ultraviolet (UV) light can effectively kill the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) virus, according to FP Technologies. The company, an engineering firm that uses UV radiation to sterilize air and surfaces, designed the SARS testing. Tests were performed at ZeptoMetrix Inc., a biotechnology lab.¹

Florida Hospital has been installing high-output ultraviolet C-band (UVC) lights in its air-handling units (AHUs), and found that this has reduced or, in some cases, eliminated coil-cleaning programs. The lights also offer IAQ and infection control benefits.

The air handler was essentially returned to its original performance specifications. The coil and drain pan areas have maintained their clean condition, and eliminating the necessity for routine cleaning.²

Exposing cooling coils to UVC will eventually kill all mold, and keep the drain pan clean, and keeping the coil clean will increase equipment efficiency, up to the design rating of the equipment." ³

PSO installed UV lights in 1996-97 to eliminate a persistent mold and IAQ problem in the majority of its HVAC systems. The firm found that, by bathing the coil and drain pan areas from the downstream side was able to eradicate the microbial growth and its related problems. The lights eliminated most of the customary coil cleaning maintenance. It translated into a big energy consumption reduction."⁴

Placing a UV light close to the air conditioning coil can prevent microbes from breeding in this typically moist area, keeping the coil clean and preventing that yeasty odor that accompanies the growth of these microorganisms.⁵

UVC light can penetrate the cellular wall of a microbe and damage DNA. UVC renders bacteria and spores unable to spread. Application of UVC at a distance of 12 inches for 15 minutes resulted in a 74 percent spore count reduction as compared to the control sample. ⁶

UVC lights can significantly reduce annual cleaning of evaporator coils and condenser coils and can significantly minimize the maintenance staff's exposure to a variety of chemicals.⁷

Sickness among office workers in industrialized countries could be reduced by using ultraviolet lamps to kill germs in ventilation systems. Ultraviolet germicidal irradiation, or UVGI, is sometimes used in hospital ventilation systems to disinfect the air but is rarely incorporated into office or other building ducts. In a study published this week in The Lancet medical journal, Canadian scientists found that the technique reduced overall worker sickness by about 20%, including a 40% drop in breathing problems. The cost of UVGI installations could prove cost-effective compared with the yearly losses from absenteeism.⁸



In one example, after a few weeks of UVC operation, static pressure over the coil decreased from 1.8 in.wg to just 0.7 in. wg. Air velocity over the coil more than doubled, from 230 fpm to 520 fpm. The coil and drain pan areas had no visible evidence of mold. The air exit wet bulb temperature decreased significantly, from 57° F (before UVC) to 53° (with UVC). It was estimated a total of \$4,867 in savings accrued for this one unit. This hospital is saving approximately 15% in HVAC energy costs. Results from this and other studies indicate that just a one-micron buildup of dirt or debris on coil surfaces can lead to a 15% loss in efficiency.

The ability of UVC to inactivate all types of bacteria and viruses is well documented. And, by destroying microbes trapped on cooling coils or in air filters, UVC light may increase the service life of these components and may facilitate safer changeout.⁹

¹ Testing Shows UV Effective At Killing SARS Virus /08/16/2004

² Retrofits Boost IAQ, Save Energy /Barb Checket-Hanks / Service, Maintenance and Troubleshooting Editor /08/16/2004

³ Mechanical Inspectors Learn From IAQ Pro /by John R. Hall / Business Management Editor /09/24/2004

⁵ Contractor puts UV lighting system to the test. /by Ed Bas / Special Editor. /08/03/2000

⁶ UVC Light: A Tool For Fighting Airborne Contaminants. /by John R. Hall / Business Management Editor. /07/17/2002

⁷ IAQ Where We Work, Shop, And Save. /by Barb Checket-Hanks / Service/Maintenance and Troubleshooting Editor. /03/14/2003

⁸ UV Lamps could reduce worker sickness. LONDON (AP) /11/28/2003

⁹ UVC: Florida Hospital Puts HVAC Maintenance Under A New Light. Firouz Keikavousi - a mechanical engineer in charge of facilities management for Florida Hospital. /02/24/2004

⁴ UV technology sheds light on IAQ problems. Ultraviolet lights clear the air, reduce costs. /07/01/2000