

by SOLARIS PAPER®





Don't Blow It.

Choosing paper towels over hand air dryers improves the safety and hygiene of your facility.

By now, we all know that proper handwashing is critical to reducing the spread of germs. But as research proves, so is *hand drying*. The science is clear—after washing your hands, **single-use paper towels are the most effective way to remove lingering viruses and bacteria, and prevent the spread of germs.*** To be even safer, it's also best to avoid touching handles and levers on traditional paper towel dispensers.

So don't blow it! To reduce cross-contamination and keep your facility and its occupants safe, it's time to unplug those air dryers and use LoCor® paper towel products along with hands-free electronic or manual pull in recessed and surface mount dispensers.



Petri dishes exposed to 30 seconds under an air dryer had up to 254 times more bacterial colonies than dishes not directly exposed.⁵



Single-use hand towels disperse the fewest microbes of all hand drying methods, while jet air dryers disperse the greatest amount.¹



In locations where health and safety are most essential—like hospitals and clinics—doctors recommend using single-use paper towels instead of air dryers.³ By using friction to dislodge viruses and bacteria, paper towels leave hands cleaner than air dryers.³



The World Health Organization's global guidelines on hand washing recommend single-use paper towels over other hand drying methods.⁴





Even if an air dryer contains a HEPA filter, the airflow causes microbes on hands and bathroom surfaces to be dispersed and recirculated, pushing the highest concentrations a distance of 2 to 4 feet.²

*Sources:

1 Best, E. L. and Redway, K. "Comparison of different hand-drying methods: the potential for airborne microbe dispersal and contamination." 2015, Journal of Hospital Infection.

2 Kimmitt, P.T. and Redway, K.F. "Evaluation of the potential for virus dispersal during hand drying: a comparison of three methods." 2016, Journal of Applied Microbiology.

3 Huang C., Ma W., Stack S. "The Hygienic Efficacy of Different Hand-Drying Methods: A Review of the Evidence." 2012, Mayo Clinic Proceedings.

- $4\ \mbox{WHO}$ Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Health Care. Published by the World Health Organization.
- 5 Huesca-Espitia, L.., Aslanzadeh, J., Feinn, R., Joseph, G., Murray, T., Setlow, P. "Deposition of Bacteria and Bacterial Spores by Bathroom Hot-Air Hand Dryers." 2018, Applied and Environmental Microbiology.

