

# CASE STUDY: CLEMSON UNIVERSITY RESIDENCE HALLS HANDS-FREE RESTROOMS

## INCLUDING HOSPECO BRANDS GROUP TOILET SEAT CLEANER, TOILET SEAT COVERS, AND SCENSIBLES PERSONAL DISPOSAL BAGS

University residence halls face stiff competition from off-campus housing, which drives continuous improvement in all aspects of residence hall life to attract and retain student residents. Restroom amenities are frequently part of these initiatives, which have recently dovetailed with the need for rigorous hygienic standards in restrooms and other public spaces. Recognizing this nexus point, Clemson University began converting its residence hall bathrooms into touch-free environments. The goal was to improve amenities for student residents while also reducing the risk of spreading viruses and germs.

The no-touch restroom conversion in Clemson residence halls began with auto-flush toilets, automatic, no-touch soap dispensers, and hands-free faucets. But the university wanted to take restroom cleanliness to an even higher standard. After hearing about Hospeco Brands Group's suite of products for a more sanitary restroom, the university's facility group agreed to introduce toilet seat cleaner, toilet seat covers, and Scensibles disposal bags into residence hall restrooms.

### Clemson's Restroom Product Bundle

- **Health Gards® Toilet Seat Cleaner Dispenser 500 ml (SC500DIS).** Cleaner is dispensed onto toilet paper and used to wipe the toilet seat clean.
- **Evogen® High Capacity No-Touch Toilet Seat Cover Dispenser (EVNT1-HCW).** Simply hold your hand over the sensor and an unfolded seat cover partially drops from the machine. Grasp it in the center and pull down to fully remove.
- **Scensibles® Personal Disposal Bags (SBX50).** Single-use bag for sanitary pads, tampons, panty liners, and wipes. Dispensers are mounted in each stall.

**PILOTING THE PROGRAM** The university chose to pilot the restroom bundle in three new dorm-style residence halls in its Douthit Hills section of campus. That represented 150 individual stalls throughout the three buildings. In addition, the restroom bundle was installed in restrooms located in common areas within four apartment-style residence halls also located in Douthit Hills.

"We chose Douthit Hills because all buildings were newer construction, so students would not have preconceived notions of what the restrooms should be like," said Brian Davidson, Clemson's associate director of custodial and building support. "They would be able to give us feedback based strictly on their experience with the restrooms in their current state, without comparing it to anything else."

The products were installed so the pilot could begin in August 2020. It ran throughout the first semester.

**THE RESPONSE** Douthit Hill residence hall restrooms got plenty of use during the pilot period, because it coincided with the coronavirus pandemic and students were spending greater amounts of time in their rooms. The majority of classes were attended online from their rooms. Even cafeteria service was done as takeout, with student taking meals back to their rooms. The semester-long pilot gave Davidson's team a wide sample of responses to draw from, all overwhelmingly positive.

Residents appreciated the hands-free restrooms. They liked the convenience, but also the feeling that their health and safety was being put first. Items like the toilet seat cleaner, toilet seat covers, and Scensibles bags also gave them a measure of control over their potential exposure to germs.

There were other benefits from the Hospeco Brands Group bundle. The automated nature of the amenities helped cleaning crews to be more efficient. Because units dispense exactly the amount needed, less waste product ended up overflowing from trash cans or dropped on the floor. Davidson specifically mentioned that a Scensibles competitor dispensed too many bags with each usage, which ended up as trash in the floor. Scensibles dispense just one bag at a time, creating no waste.

**NEXT STEPS** After the successful conclusion of the pilot, Clemson's facilities team immediately began to rollout the hands-free Hospeco Brands Group product bundle across the university's 31 residence halls, representing approximately 700 restroom stalls. The goal is to have every restroom fully converted by the end of 2021.

Davidson also wants to see the Hospeco Brands Group bundle installed beyond residence halls, including in restrooms in common areas of other university buildings. The products are already installed in restrooms near administration offices so university leaders can see for themselves what a difference they make.



**Brian Davidson,**  
Clemson University Associate  
Director of Custodial  
and Building Support

*"Whatever questions we had about installation or product support, Hospeco Brands Group was with us every step of the way, making sure our implementation would be successful"*

