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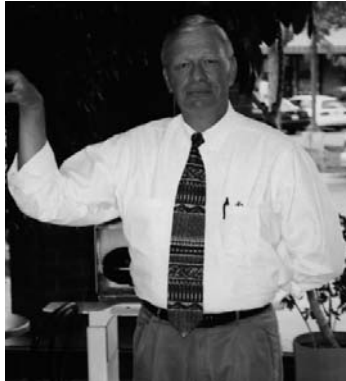
# ROCKY MOUNTAIN FABRICARE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2002  
VOL. 17, NO. 5

SERVING THE DRYCLEANERS OF COLORADO, UTAH AND WYOMING

## *At the Town Meeting held on September 12th in Golden, CO We got Answers in Plain English (BETTER YET - WE NOW KNOW WHO TO CALL)*

BY: JOE BLAHA



As a member of RMFA's Education Committee, I get to attend a lot of presentations. This one was special and we will offer it again. The Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) was presented by Joni Canterbury and Nick Melliadis. They spent a lively couple of hours helping us to unravel the mysteries of environmental compliance. I

am constantly asked about the rules. Is a West Bend crockpot an approved wastewater evaporator? What happens if I use more than 140 gallons of perc in one year? Just a couple of common questions that I am very happy to know can be clarified and answered by the folks at the SBAP, they openly invite your calls and questions.

At the meeting we were provided with an overview of the entire topic of dry cleaners and regulated pollutants, environmental issues including air waste, water,

accidental spills and the role of the SBAP. We were provided with an impressive notebook of relevant materials including "A Simple Guide to Air Quality Rules for Perc Dry Cleaners", "Pressing Concerns - A Complete Guidebook to Environmental Compliance for Colorado Dry



Cleaners" and all the relevant forms, and the phone number of everybody we need to know regarding regulatory issues. I don't know how anyone could hope to operate without all this information.

Of even greater importance than the sheer volume of information was the knowledge that for those of us in attendance we now know who to call. The SBAP is readily available to work with the drycleaning community. Their services are free and confidential.

They offer - technical assistance, on-site consultations, compliance assistance tools and pollution prevention options. The SBAP even offers the services of an environmental ombudsman, Nick Melliadis, who is available and ready to mediate all those potential "SNAFU" situations between regulations and reality.

Watch for the next offering from the SBAP and make it your business to attend.

	<b>Contact Information</b>
	<p><b>Small Business Assistance Program</b>          4200 Cherry Creek Drive South          Denver, CO 80246-1530  <b>1-800-886-7689</b>  <a href="http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/ap/sbap.asp">www.cdphe.state.co.us/ap/sbap.asp</a></p> <p>Joni Canterbury: (303) 692-3175          Chuck Hix: (303) 692-3148</p> <p>Small Business Ombudsman          Nick Melliadis: (303) 962-2135</p>



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**UTAH UPDATE**

By: Sharon Dutcher

It is time to acknowledge some of the people who make our work possible: our local equipment and supply salespeople. We in Utah are blessed with people who make our emergency their emergency and go out of their way to ensure we have functioning machines and all the products we need to produce a quality garment.

If you have ever had a machine malfunction on a busy day you know just how valuable a good relationship with your equipment dealer is. The same applies to our suppliers: if you need an emergency box of hangars, they will get you an emergency box of hangars. No mail order supplier in the country can begin to compete with the customer service we routinely expect (and get) from our local salespeople.

Besides great customer service, they provide us with knowledge on a continuing basis. Salesmen taught me much of what I needed to learn when I first entered the dry-cleaning business. Now they bring new products and methods to my attention. They bring

equipment representatives and chemical company salesmen through my front door. Yes, they are trying to sell a product but they are also teaching me new and better ways of doing my job.

Our local suppliers and dealers are also great supporters of RMFA's continuing education efforts. Mendenhall Equipment has set up functioning equipment for several spotting and finishing seminars. Laundry Supply provided us with a room (and good food) so that we could hold a customer service seminar last month.

On Sept. 19 Ally Equipment hosted an "RMFA town meeting" with an OSHA representative. In addition, in October, Katzson Brothers provided a meeting place for an IFI customer service seminar. All of these seminars and meetings are designed to make us better dry-cleaners. There is no direct benefit to the hosting company. So next time you see your local salesman, tell him "Thanks for all you do"!

**RMFA MISSION STATEMENT:**

The purpose of the ROCKY MOUNTAIN FABRICARE ASSOCIATION is to enhance the image and viability of the fabricare industry through education, and development of the skills, talents and professionalism of its membership.

**RMFA PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES:**

To promote, develop and protect the interests of the garment and textile maintenance industry. To improve the quality of services rendered by industry by providing an opportunity for the exchange of experiences, ideas and opinions through meetings, discussion and educational programs. To develop and encourage the practice of high standards and professional conduct and safety within the workplace among the membership.

## 월드 컵, 한국, 히딩크



## World Cup, Korea and Hiddink

최 상 학 IFI 부회장

Sam Choi, IFI V. P. Asian Affairs

일본과 한국이 공동주최한 지난 월드컵 대회에서 한국축구팀은 이태리와 폴루투갈등 세계강호들을 하나하나 꺾고 승승장구 상상을 초월한 기량을 발휘하여 세계4강인 준결승까지 진출하여 세계를 놀라게 했다.

The Korean national soccer team has surprised the whole world by beating some of the world's strongest teams, such as Italy and Portugal, and advanced to the best 4 in the world. The recent World Cup tournament was co-sponsored by Korea and Japan.

한국선수들은 거스 히딩크감독의 탁월한 지도하에 전경기를 통해 강렬한 근성과 진취적인 기상, 훌륭한 체력, 뛰어난 전술.전략을 보여줬다. 온국민은 질서 정연한 태도로 한국팀을 응원하는 모습을 보여줌으로서 민족의 역량을 과시했다. 이와같은 역사적인 업적을 이룩할수 있었던 핵심적인 요소는 선수들의 책임감, 직업정신과 조국에 대한 지극한 열정의 결과이지만 그렇게 할수 있도록 동기를 부여한 사람은 다름아닌 히딩크 감독의 탁월한 지도력이었다.

The members of the Korean national soccer team have demonstrated a strong perseverance, heroic spirit, superior physical strength combined with superb strategy and tactics employed by coach Guus Hiddink. The entire people of Korea also showed their power and unity by cheering the team enthusiastically in perfect orderly manner. The major factors attributable to such an achievement were the demonstrations of each athlete's sense of responsibility and professionalism coupled with passionate love for their motherland, which was motivated by none other than coach Hiddink.

이번 월드컵 경기를 통해서 히딩크 감독이 이룩한 업적을 직혀보고 지도자의 역할이 얼마나 중요한지를 새삼 깨달을수 있었다. 히딩크 감독은 한국축구의 새로운 역사의 한페이지를 화려하게 장식하고 그의 조국 화란으로 돌아갔다. 한국국민의 열화같은 찬사와 존경을 받아 그가 원하기만 하면 한국에서 거의 모든 것을 얻을수 있었건만 그는 손을 깨끗이 씻고 갔다. 이 얼마나 아름답고 멋진 행동인가. 우리는 히딩크 감독으로부터 배울것이 너무나 많다. 히딩크가 보여준 멋진 리더십은 전체한국국민을 단결시켰고 한국국민의 우수성을 세계에 새로히 인식하는데 공헌하였다. 과거 어느 지도자가 이와같은 큰 일을 할수 있었던가?

Needless to say, I realized the importance of the role of leadership through the World Cup tournament. After paving the glorious page of a new history of Korean soccer, coach Hiddink returned to Netherland, his motherland. With burning applause and respect by the Korean people, he could get anything that he might have wanted. But he has gone, washing his hands, thus leaving no trace of regret. What a beautiful action! We have too many things to learn from him. His leadership has brought the whole Korean people united. What other leaders in the past have accomplished such a success?

모름지기 지도자는 단체의 크고 작음과 상관없이 또한 어떤 분야를 막론하고 권력과 기득권에 집착하지 말고 권력의 자리를 떠날때는 모든 것을 잊어버리고 깨끗이 떠나야한다.

It is imperative that leaders of any organizations, whether it is small or big, regardless of any fields, should leave the position cleaned-handed, with no attachment to their vested power.

미국의 한국인사회에는 세탁업계를 포함해서 자생적으로 생긴 각종단체가 수없이 많다. 공통적인 목적은 상호친목을 도모하고 권익옹호에 있다고 한다. 많은 단체가 친목은 고사하고 상호 불신과 반목으로 인해 분열과 갈등이 끊임없다. 권익옹호는 커녕 제몫도 찾아 먹지 못하고 남의 몫까지 먹지 못하게 방해하기 일수다 지도자로서의 자질과 소양을 갖추지 못한 나머지 무리수를 쓰게되고 엉뚱한 길로 가려는데서 혼란과 부정을 저질른다.

There are numerous self-born Korean-American organizations, including some associations in the drycleaning industry, geared to promoting friendly relations and protecting the rights and interests of the members. Regretably, to say nothing of promoting friendly relations, infighting and disharmony are common. Efforts to protect the rights and interests of the members are often hindered or blocked because of hostile attitudes by those rivaling individuals who are lacking in the leadership quality.

이번 월드컵을 기해서 한국전체국민이 발휘한 화합과 단결력을 통해서 우리도 하면 된다는 자신감을 갖게 했다. 아집을 버리고 화합을 위해 상호 양보하면 단결할수 있고 위대한 힘을 발휘할수 있다는 것이 이번 월드컵을 통해서 히딩크 감독이 보여준 교훈이다.

Through the World Cup tournament, the Korean people have not only learned the invaluable lesson, but also acquired the confidence that if united harmoniously, we would be able to accomplish something unimaginable.

# Preventative Maintenance - A Necessity to Achieve Quality Drycleaning

Preventative maintenance is an area that constantly receives a lot of lip service, but for some reason, the message seems to get lost in our day to day routines. Preventative maintenance on the drycleaning machine is essential in order to achieve quality and trouble free operation, not to mention effective drycleaning. If button traps and pump strainers are not cleaned on regular intervals, there are problems with solvent flow, draining, and extracting. This places a lot of undo stress on the pump, drive motor, and belts, causing premature wear. The same goes for air line oilers that are not properly maintained, which in turn causes the pneumatic valves to stick, and not operate properly which in turn causes all kind of operational problems. Water separators that look like a high school biology project gone bad are the most prevalent cause of odor in a drycleaning system. In addition, improperly maintained stills will not only cause odor problems, but can be a huge waste of steam pressure, and perc consumption. These are only a few of the problems I seem to encounter on a daily basis, all of which could be avoided with a little regular and preventative maintenance. In a time when everyone is looking for ways to save on their energy consumption, it only makes sense that we keep our equipment in top working order. Below I will give a rough outline of items that need to be maintained and a time frame for each. It should be noted that these are merely suggestions and that operators should consult their manufacturers equipment manuals for items specific to their particular equipment.

## EVERY LOAD

Check and remove any debris in the wheel before processing the next load.

## EVERY 2 TO 3 LOADS

Clean lint from the lint filter in the drying chamber.

Remove debris from the button trap.

## DAILY

Check filter pressures and bleed air from the housing if necessary.

Check refrigeration sight glass for bubbles.

Clean pump strainer and pre-lint filter if so

equipped.

Check appearance of perc/solvent and water levels in water separator.

Drain still - predicated on volume and use.

Drain water from airline separator.

Desorb/regenerate carbon absorber (if needed).

## WEEKLY

Check oil level in airline oiler, refill if less than ¼ full.

Check for perc/solvent leaks - refer to your detection and inspection forms.

Drain and scrape the still - more often based on volume and use.

Drain and replace water in the water separator.

Thoroughly clean lint filters.

## MONTHLY

Check refrigeration coils for potential lint build up.

Check condenser coils.

Grease bearings and motors according to manufacturers recommendations.

Thoroughly clean water separator, and inspect for clogs.

Check belt tension - adjust if necessary.

## ANNUALLY

Clean heating and cooling coil fins.

Clean condenser coils.

Check all coils for leaks.

As I stated before, this is only a suggested list of maintenance items, you should consult your

machine manufacturers manual for specific preventative/regular maintenance items. Most of us would not even consider not maintaining our automobiles, so it only makes sense to maintain one of the most important pieces of equipment in the plant, not to mention the unnecessary headaches you will avoid. You will also be one step closer to providing quality cleaning for your customers. If I can be of assistance with your quality improvement initiatives or any other concerns you may have with your drycleaning system, feel free to contact me at (303) 679-0387.

Robert Blacker

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# IFI's Testing Finds GreenEarth Cleaning Process to be a Viable Alternative for the Drycleaning Industry

Following over 18 months of testing and more than 1,000 work hours on the project, results of IFI's Research Fellowship on the GreenEarth Cleaning process confirm the following:

“Based on our overall evaluations, IFI's findings are that GreenEarth Cleaning is a viable alternative for the drycleaning industry, and while in some respects, is comparable to a perc drycleaning process.”

IFI was contracted by GreenEarth Cleaning for comprehensive testing and evaluation of its drycleaning system. Over the course of the Fellowship research IFI looked at more parameters than ever before.

“This is probably the most extensive evaluation we have ever conducted on a solvent or machine system in terms of the factors we looked at,” IFI CEO Bill Fisher said. “IFI's researchers tested a wider range of fabrics than we have ever looked at in terms of how they will hold up to the cleaning process and how the process will impact stain removal effectiveness on the fabrics. The results of that rigorous testing led to the favorable evaluation the GreenEarth process received.”

GreenEarth Cleaning Chairman Jim Barry stated, “We are pleased to have participated with IFI in conducting this extensive research. We believe that it's important for our industry that any and all solvents being considered as an alternative to perchloroethylene be tested in a similar way so our industry can have the full

facts in order to make informed business decisions. Obviously we're delighted that GreenEarth is recognized as a comparable alternative solvent to perc.”

For there to be a compelling reason to change to any alternative process it has to meet both critical cleaning performance standards and practical considerations. IFI's research and testing addressed six areas of importance to cleaners:

- ◆ Does the process clean?
- ◆ Will the process handle the garments you currently dryclean?
- ◆ Does it have realistic/affordable labor and operating costs?
- ◆ Does it have financially realistic capital costs?
- ◆ Must have no known or expected health issues.
- ◆ Will not create future contamination.

	<b>GreenEarth®</b>	<b>Perc</b>
<b>A. Cleaning Performance</b>	★★★★☆	★★★★★
<b>B. Handle Garments you currently process</b>	★★★★★	★★★★☆
<b>C. Affordable/Operating Costs*</b>	★★★☆☆	★★★★★
<b>D. Realistic Capital Costs</b>	★★★★☆	★★★★★
<b>E. Health Issues†</b>	★★★★☆	★★☆☆☆
<b>F. Contamination Issue†</b>	★★★★☆	★★☆☆☆
<b>Overall</b>	★★★★☆	★★★★☆

\* Reduced regulatory costs, depending on your state, could increase the rating for GreenEarth® to 4 stars or slightly higher—Section C of the full Fellowship has details on this.

† The GreenEarth® ratings could increase to 5 stars—see “E” and “F.”

## **DRYCLEANING & LAUNDRY EQUIPMENT FOR SALE**

- |                                     |        |
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| 2. Unipress clamp double buck press | \$5500 |
| 3. Unipress collar/cuff press       | \$3000 |
| 4. Ajax Vaccum double buck press    | \$6000 |
| 5. Ajax Utility press               | \$1250 |
| 6. New Yorker Legger Press          | \$750  |
| 7. Forenta Legger Press             | \$1000 |
| 8. Hoffman Manual press             | \$750  |
| 9. Kleen-Rite filter, 3 Tubes       | \$1500 |
| 10. Cissell Spotting Board          | \$300  |

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