



NEWS RELEASE

IAHTM Touts Its Expertise, Experience Re: Laundry Processing's Role in Use of Copper-Embedded Healthcare Linens

Powell, OH – Feb. 3, 2017 – As interest grows among the acute care community in the use of self-disinfecting copper-embedded composites to reduce healthcare-associated infections (HAIs), the International Association for Healthcare Textile Management (IAHTM) is promoting its experience and expertise regarding copper-infused textiles and laundry processing's role in their effectiveness.

“We’re hearing from some of our members that they’re being asked by their healthcare customers – hospital administrators and those in charge of infection control – if they have any knowledge or track record in the use of these newer technologies,” said Rocco Romeo, board president of IAHTM. “We’re pleased to say that, indeed, we do. And we’re happy to be able to offer our membership the benefit of having access to quick answers to relevant information on subjects like this.”

IAHTM is a nonprofit membership organization for healthcare laundry cooperatives that provides senior-level textile managers with resources and support to maximize their laundries' efficiencies and control costs without compromising quality or patient focus.

IAHTM member Shared Hospital Services, Portsmouth, VA, has been processing copper-infused textiles for more than two years, according to Romeo. And, earlier, the company took part in a larger trial to measure the impact of using a combination of self-disinfecting copper-impregnated composite hard surfaces and linens on reducing HAIs. The results of the trial were published in the [*American Journal of Infection Control*](#). That trial concluded: “...self-disinfecting surfaces and linens represent a novel approach to limiting transmission of MDROs (multi-drug resistant organisms) and reducing HAIs.”

Shared Hospital Services summarized the role of laundry processing of copper-infused medical linens manufactured by Cupron Inc., www.cupron.com, in a presentation at the 2016 Education Conference of the American Reusable Textile Association (ARTA) held earlier in Orlando, FL.

About IAHTM

Founded in 1969, the International Association for Healthcare Textile Management (IAHTM) is a nonprofit organization serving healthcare laundry cooperatives. IAHTM membership comprises experienced laundry executives serving 7,000 healthcare facilities in the USA and Canada. IAHTM members have access to training and education programs, benchmarking resources, peer information sharing and networking, and group purchasing power on textiles and chemicals. www.iahtm.com