



## Effectiveness and Safety in Floor-Cleaning

**Kelheim (Germany), January 2005** - Cleanliness and hygiene are more than just cosmetic in a hospital. Impeccable hygiene and a sterile environment are the most important aspects when it comes to cleaning at the Kelheim district hospital.

### The individual is at the centre of the recovery process

Kelheim district hospital is a category II regular care hospital. Patients are cared for on nine wards containing 235 beds, in general care and on the interdisciplinary intensive-care ward.

The clear focus at Kelheim district hospital is on the wellbeing of the patients. This includes not only thorough cleaning but also the requirement for heavily used areas to dry quickly, and for staff and patients to be able to walk on them again in safety immediately afterwards. "Our visitors and patients must not be exposed to the risk of slipping and falling," says Mr Manfred Geiger, head of cleaning services at Kelheim district hospital.

The particular hygiene requirements in hospital demand a high degree of cleanliness and sterility. Kelheim district hospital chose an innovative cleaning system from HEFTER Cleantech to tackle the job.



## Low-Noise Cleaning Thanks to the SILENT System

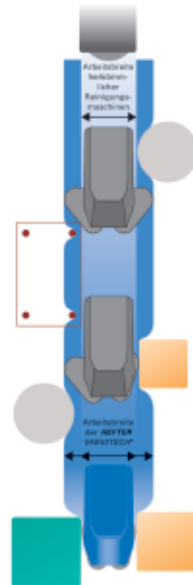
Bacteria, viruses and even fungus can lead to dangerous infections. Because these germs only occur in high concentrations in hospitals, it is important that hospitals especially are cleaned regularly and often in the course of the day.

About 6,000 square metres are cleaned with the HEFTER system every day. A start is made as early as 6.30 am on the operating theatres, the outpatient and surgery departments, the delivery room, the day clinic and A&E. From 9.30 onwards all the floors, corridors, lobbies and lifts are cleaned.

It is also extraordinarily important that patients and visitors are not inconvenienced by the noise of a cleaning system. The HEFTER system is equipped with what is known as a "SILENT" function, which compared with conventional machines by other manufacturers significantly reduces the noise level for use in hospital, for example. As a result it is possible to clean with no difficulty, even in the course of the day.

## Cleaning time reduced by approx. 50 %

When the HEFTER system was acquired it was at the same possible to optimise working practices and the organisation of the cleaning processes. "As a result it proved possible to reduce the hours worked for maintenance cleaning by more than 50 %."



Reasons for this include the following: VARIOTECH® technology, which makes it possible to clean with a machine even in poorly accessible areas, such as under handrails and in corners.

In addition to which, Mr Geiger has exploited the advantages resulting from the use of VARIOTECH® and worked out an optimum cleaning schedule in terms of the areas to be covered.

Time-consuming distances and even lift rides have thus been optimised, contributing to a significant reduction in working hours.

Another further advantage for the user is the large 100-litre tank, as a result of which the entire hospital can be cleaned with just one tank-full.

## Not just ready to walk on, but also dry straight away

If it should be possible not only to walk on the floor immediately after cleaning, but also for it to be dry straight away, then it has to be a HEFTER system," says Mr Geiger enthusiastically about his cleaning system. The arrangement of the suction bars immediately behind the brushes and the extremely good suction are the crucial features of the technology used.

"Working with HEFTER has proved to be very successful for us. We get very good support, and even if there does happen to be a fault occasionally, the service engineers are here in no time to get it back in working order again," says Manfred Geiger, summing up.

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