

Benefits of Reusable Products



Fact/Fiction

Fiction: Laundries consume twelve gallons of water per pound of laundry.

Fact: Laundry water consumption will vary depending on equipment, on average the usage is 0.6-0.9 gallons per pound. With increased technology aimed at reducing impact on our precious resources. In addition to efficient use of water there are also pollution controls for chemicals, use of reclaims heat, and recycling of water.

Fiction: Reusable's can only claim to perform adequately after as many as 70 washes.

Fact: Proven tracking data indicates the number of uses to be 75 or better. Processors following manufacturer recommendations are tracking over 100 uses.

Fiction: Not only do reusables fail to live up to their promised level of cost savings but their cost per use is difficult to track.

Fact: Reusable's provide a full and accurate cost per use savings which can be demonstrated quite effectively. Also, each of the important cost components is included in our cost analysis. Sterilization costs and disposal costs need to be included in all cost comparisons.

Fiction: The risk factors for reusables are comparable to that of single-use products.

Fact: Each and every reusable linen product is inspected for quality before it is put back into circulations. You can use reusable's and have confidence in knowing due diligence has been taken to ensure both you and your patient are protected.

Single use products disadvantages:

- ⊕ Proven higher cost for a single use program.
- ⊕ Limited design options.
- ⊕ Increases warehousing and storage costs.
- ⊕ Significant costs associated with inadvertent discarding of instruments with limited opportunity for retrieval.
- ⊕ Poor breathability qualities make product uncomfortable for both medical team and patient.
- ⊕ Product offers poor drapability.
- ⊕ They create job losses in Canada by promoting products which displace local processing jobs within your community.
- ⊕ Disposable products are made by non-Canadians who do not support the Health care system.
- ⊕ Only a small percentage of the dollars generated by the purchase of disposables remain in Canada.
- ⊕ Disposables offer products with a higher cost per value putting a burden on Health Care funds.
- ⊕ Disposable have no regard for our environment by offering products which are not environmentally responsible.

Reusable Product advantages:

- ⊕ Proven lower cost for a reusable program.
- ⊕ Flexibility to provide customized product to meet specific customer needs.
- ⊕ Significant reduction of environmental waste and the associated harmful impacts.
- ⊕ Reduces warehousing and storage requirements.
- ⊕ Superior barrier protection and drapability.
- ⊕ Supports Canadian manufacturing keeping jobs in Canada.
- ⊕ Offers high level of quality assurance and efficient tracing methods.
- ⊕ Allows for quicker patient recovery time due to more stable patient temperature during surgery with our drapes and from special surgical fabrics.
- ⊕ Less risk for undetected "blue flame" fires in the OR.
- ⊕ The breathability, comfort and protection offered from gowns are a benefit to doctors who are spending more time in the OR.
- ⊕ Ability to retrieve inadvertently discarded instruments saving potentially thousands of dollars.