

Drug Topics

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Parata recognized for green efforts

By Alaina Scott, Senior Editor

Going green is one of the biggest consumer and commercial trends of this generation. It was with that in mind that Parata decided to take one step to become greener. And that's exactly what they recently managed to do.

The GREENGUARD Environmental Institute announced recently it has granted the first-ever GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality Certification for pharmacy automation equipment to Parata Systems.

"Our technology helps pharmacies set new benchmarks for the speed, safety and accuracy of prescriptions. With GREENGUARD, we are extending our safety commitment to the indoor air quality impact of Parata's technology to assure a clean, safe pharmacy environment for employees and customers," said Tom Rhoads, executive vice president, customer and market strategies.

"It's our hope that other pharmacy providers will follow our lead." Rhoads said Parata really wanted to contribute to the green movement, and that was when the company decided to get certified. "Indoor air quality is really important to us," he said. "I think this really shows our commitment to safety."

The GREENGUARD Certification Program is a "green product labels," along with the U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR program. Both programs rely on comprehensive third-party standards. GREENGUARD also uses independent testing and verification. Products certified by these programs are recognized for use in green, high performance buildings including retail spaces.


GREENGUARD's product standard and test methodology meet or exceed specifications and chemical guidelines of the State of California, Environmental Protection Agency, American Counsel for Government Industrial Hygienists and other regulatory agencies. "Specifying GREENGUARD products is important in managing the overall indoor air quality of any retail environment.

Since most retail pharmacy customers are managing healthcare issues, the quality of air they are breathing is of particular significance. Parata is leading the way toward healthier, safer pharmacy environments as the first industry provider to earn GREENGUARD Children & Schools Certification for one of its products," said Dr. Marilyn Black, founder of the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute.

Testing was conducted in a dynamic environmental chamber where Parata RDS was operated to simulate maximum use conditions, equating to about a 1,000-prescription day. Fine particle and volatile chemical concentrations were monitored in the chamber and used to predict actual exposure concentrations in the pharmacy environment where the unit is in use. The predicted exposures while using Parata RDS were below GREENGUARD acceptance levels.

An online guide to GREENGUARD Certified products is available with no charge at www.greenguard.org.



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