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# Capitalize On The Benefits Of Using An Automatic Scrubber

Critical to enhancing the life span and minimizing down time when using an automatic scrubber is simply having a basic knowledge of the machine's operating system, according to Sean Martschinke, a CIMS ISSA Certification Expert (I.C.E.) and marketing manager for Tornado Industries, a manufacturer of professional floor care equipment.

"And that starts with having a basic understanding of all the key components, what we can call the anatomy of the machine."

According to Martschinke, some of these key components include the following:

Vacuum filters. "One of the smaller but critically important parts of a 'scrubber' are the vacuum filters. The filter and/or screen must be kept clean and all debris removed in order for the machine to effectively remove moisture."

Solution system. Essential for any automatic scrubber is to have a solution tank, where water and chemical are mixed, released to the floor as the machine is used.

Recovery system. To collect moisture and soil, automatic scrubbers have a vacuum, squeegee, and hoses, which collect and carry moisture to the recovery tank.

Recovery tank lid/cover. This is a surprisingly important part of a scrubber. It's always good practice to leave the lid or cover open when the machine is not in use. This helps dry out the tank and helps prevent bacteria and malodors from developing.

Power system. Scrubbers are either battery-powered or cord-operated. Most users prefer a battery-powered machine, and what is proving the most popular is an eco-friendly, maintenance-free AGM battery.

Parabolic squeegee. "The squeegee is essential to effective moisture pickup. A parabolic squeegee has a semicircular frame design, which holds the squeegee blade in a curved position. This design has proven itself as the best design for solution recovery even during turns."

Operational interface. This is the part of the machine's anatomy most users know, see, and use. It includes the controls, handles, knobs, gauges, and other mechanicals. While many machines now have a very intuitive interface, it is always a good idea to review the owner's manual regarding specific controls and functions. Not all interfaces are the same.

"It's important to remember that the key components on an automatic scrubber work together as a system," says Martschinke. "If one component is not operating properly it can impact the performance of the entire machine. This is why regular maintenance and proper use of the machine are so important."