Reusables vs. Disposables
Reusables vs. Disposables

- Cool Breeze
- Nature all around
Reusables vs. Disposables

QUIITE A CONTRAST
Reusables vs. Disposables

We are destroying the Planet Earth
Disposables & Cost

• Waste Disposing
• Expensive initial purchase price
• Warehousing costs

Disposables are twice as expensive as reusables.
• **Current cost of ruining our planet.**

• **The mess we are leaving for future generations to clean up.**

• **Sickness occurring from contaminated ground water that enters water supply.**

• **A resource that is used once and tossed, buried or burned.**
Fact 1: Hospitals generate over 2.5 million tons of solid waste per year.

• Immediate 33% solid waste reduction by this year’s end.

• 50% reduction by the year 2010.
Fact 2: Hospitals generate 7,000 tons of UNUSED solid medical waste per day.

7,000 tons per day
x 365 days
2,555,000 solid waste per year in tons
x 2,000
5,110,000,000 solid waste per year in pounds
x 2
10,220,000,000 solid waste per year in pounds
LaundryESP®

(Laundry Environmental Stewardship Program)

TRSA made a commitment to EPA
Commitment & Awareness

• Our industry has spent several millions of dollars and we have a continued commitment to LaundryESP.

• LaundryESP has raised awareness and brought a greater environmental responsibility to the foreground.
LaundryESP®
(Laundry Environmental Stewardship Program)

GOALS

1. Significant reduction in pollutants (20,000 pounds) discharged to sewers as measured in pollutant equivalents.

2. 10 to 25 percent reduction in the gallons of water used per pound of textiles processed.

3. 10 to 25 percent reduction in energy consumption per pound of textiles processed.

4. 10 to 25 percent substitution of environmentally friendly washroom chemical formulations.
The disposable “addition” calculator:

- Purchase price
- Disposal cost
- Occupational health costs
- Liability costs
- Warehousing costs
- Environmental consequences
Reusables vs. Disposables

The clear choice is reusable linens, surgical items, gowns and drapes.
The Reusable Comfort Advantage

- Doctors prefer them
- Nurses prefer them
- Patients prefer them
- Rated Restaurants prefer them
- Industrial manuf. Prefers them
- Commercial & OPL’s care about the environment.
OSHA

“garments have to be appropriate for the task and degree of exposure to blood borne pathogens and infectious bacteria anticipated”
American National Standards Institute & Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI)

Published a standard for determining barrier effectiveness of surgical gowns and drapes.
When reusable barrier items are laundered correctly, the end result is that reusables are 70% better than the latest disposable spun-bonded products when tested for meeting standards.
Another Cost Factor

Medicare costs doubled from 1990 to 2002 - $257 BILLION

Nat’l health expenditure for 1990 was $735 BILLION
Reusables vs. Disposables

For 2002 it was $1.5 Trillion

$1,500,000,000,000,000 (11 zero’s)

2004 was $2 Trillion

$2,000,000,000,000,000
Reusables vs. Disposables

The Future of Surgery

2004
28.5 million surgery procedures performed
Generated $14 Billion in Revenue for disposables

2010
38 million procedures will be performed
Will generate $22 Billion in Revenue for disposables
H2E & TRSA

We’re spreading our wings.
For a cleaner environment.
There IS no argument!
Reusables WIN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- They are better for the environment
- They cost half of what disposables cost (use cost)
- They will help hospitals need to meet EPA waste reductions
- People Preferred (especially gowns by Dr., RN & Patient)
- Provide better barrier protection in surgery and, as the nation ages – except for me, technology costs rise, and healthcare continues to cost more, reusables will help in the general redistribution of healthcare resources necessary to meet the challenges of providing healthcare to our citizens.
Thank you for your time and participation in this educational presentation.

Future generations depend on us to preserve the Planet Earth

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