

HOW TSEBO ACHIEVED WORKPLACE READINESS FOR THE WESTERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE BY CLEANING AND DISINFECTING OVER 61 860 M² FACILITIES

INTRODUCTION

With the announcement that an increased number of government officials and staff could return to work under Level 3 of lockdown, the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) in the Western Cape needed a company that could provide high-level COVID-19 specialised cleaning and disinfection of its buildings. The Western Cape had the highest number of coronavirus cases at the time and the department wanted to reassure its staff that they would be returning to a decontaminated and safe working environment.

The project was put out to tender and Tsebo Cleaning and Hygiene Solutions was awarded the contract based on **affordability, guaranteed quick mobilisation and turnaround times,** as well as its vast cleaning experience in the healthcare sector.

CHALLENGE

Under normal circumstances work surfaces are covered with large numbers of disease carrying pathogens. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, people have become more aware of the risks presented by pathogens and their prevalence on shared surfaces.

In addition to government-stipulated regulations for the safe return to work, to maintain productivity employees needed to feel confident that every measure had been taken to clean and disinfect the workspace. This involved high-level cleaning and disinfecting to prepare nine facilities (approximately 62,000 m²), including the department's offices, office parks, courts and the Customs House building for the safe return of its staff. The customer furthermore required Tsebo to clean and disinfect 89 of its vehicles used to service the local communities in various capacities, including waste management, horticulture, upkeeping and maintenance.

SOLUTION

Within 24 hours of receiving the initial go-ahead, Tsebo rapidly mobilised highly-trained staff using specialised equipment and products, to clean and disinfect the client's facilities.

Armed with vast experience of hospital-level cleaning as well as in risk management, Tsebo delivered best practice with regards to the products and methods used. All surfaces and critical touchpoints were decontaminated using a two-step process that consists of first cleaning with a neutral detergent, and then applying a disinfectant using an electrostatic sprayer.



Electrostatic disinfection

Tsebo deployed its specialised electrostatic disinfection and cleaning solution which uses technology to deep clean and disinfect every millimetre of surface and hard-to-reach space.

- An electrostatic sprayer is used in conjunction with an EPA approved, broad spectrum virucidal, bactericidal and fungicidal disinfectant.
- The fine spray mist is electrostatically charged using a lightweight hand-held device that works quietly and efficiently, providing 360-degree coverage and better adhesion to surfaces and objects.

BENEFITS

Tsebo rapidly deployed specialised cleaning teams within 24-hours, ensuring workplace readiness in a short time frame across the department's facilities. In addition to providing a cost-effective solution, employees who needed to return to work had the peace of mind that electrostatic disinfection ensures the highest level of decontamination.

The disinfectant is **EPA approved. It is 100% natural** and safe for both humans and animals, and effective against a wide range of mycobacteria, fungi, and viruses (including the COVID-19 virus).

The department had the CONFIDENCE the job was done by professionals:

- Tsebo employees receive training in infection control standards, including PPE usage and other personal preventative measures
- All products used are registered with the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)
- Standard operating procedures are aligned to recommendations from the National Institute of Communicable Diseases and guidelines from the Department of Health



Tsebo COVID-19 cleaning and disinfecting of Customs House:

- 24 Tsebo specialised cleaners
- 27 000 m²
- 3-4 days to clean and disinfect
- 24-hours mobilisation time (after go-ahead)



As a value add to the client and to support the client in serving the community during difficult times, Tsebo applied their COVID-19 cleaning methodology and advanced technology to clean and disinfect the department's **89 service vehicles at NO ADDITIONAL COST.**

- 89 vehicles
- Project completed in **two working days**
- **Two locations:** DPWI buildings at Customs House and Groote Schuur Estate

OUTCOME

After the satisfactory initial workplace readiness cleaning of the department's nine buildings and 89 vehicles, Tsebo was called in to again disinfect a number of the buildings for additional peace of mind.

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