

## A Case Study

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### **Abatement Technologies HEPA-AIRE® Air Filtration Systems Adhering to AIA Guidelines During Construction and Renovation**

“We have 14 machines in place,” states Walt R. Dubois, PE, CEM, MBA, Manager Plant Maintenance at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix, AZ. “We use the machines often to work in ceilings. The unit is tied into the ceiling to create a negative pressure, and in numerous situations this has been our means to get the work done without compromising the surroundings. A smoke stick is used to verify that indeed the airflow is into the ceiling cavity. This has been very helpful for pulling cables and for small repair activities. Beyond that, they are used in a very orthodox fashion to create negative pressure in the spaces that we isolate for construction and maintenance activities.”

Walt continues, “Our infection control nurse is very vigilant in her inspections of our activities. Our applications, where we create negative air barriers by using your machines, routinely pass her inspection.”

Abatement HEPA-AIRE portable air scrubbers feature:

- Four stages of filtration, including carbon for odors
- A final stage HEPA filter individually tested and certified to a minimum efficiency of 99.97% at 0.3 microns
- User-friendly controls
- Fast, easy set-up
- Operation in three modes: negative pressure, positive pressure and recirculation
- Two available models from 150–2250 CFM
- Filter loading indicators
- Portability and maneuverability
- The only system independently tested and certified by Environmental Testing Laboratory to stringent UL standards

During such activities as disturbing ceiling tiles, sanding, heavy demolition, and electrical or computer cable installation, the Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA) matrix of precautions calls for the use of negative pressure. Section 5.2.D stipulates that, “Renovation areas shall be isolated from occupied areas during construction using airtight barriers, and exhaust airflow shall be sufficient to maintain negative air pressure in the construction zone.” Hospitals should utilize Abatement Technologies Inc.’s HEPA-AIRE® portable air scrubbers (PAS) for compliance. They are available through Premier contract # PP-CE-149.