

Product Launch



Hoshizaki partners with MGK to launch water-electrolyzing range of ROX machines in the GCC

Tap water can be turned into alkaline and acidic water by a machine developed and manufactured by Hoshizaki, a Japanese manufacturer of commercial kitchen equipment. The 16-year old product has been launched in Dubai and the first unit has been installed at Hotel Grand Hyatt, Dubai. ROX is a chemical-free cleaning system that produces electrolysed alkaline (cleaning) and acidic (disinfecting) water, known as EO-water. The EO-water has antibacterial properties that can be compared to the cleaning and disinfecting characteristic of detergents. The three ingredients used to produce clean and disinfecting water are: water, common salt and electricity.

Salt, which is an essential ingredient in the process, is provided by the salt water tank. Additionally, a domestic water softener is required in the water supply to the machine to ensure that best quality water is processed.

While alkaline water dissolves proteins and oil, acidic water is effective in sanitizing and the removal and control of bacteria. Acidic water is effective in sanitizing and in the removal and control of bacteria and can also be a food additive. Common applications include disinfecting and sterilizing foodstuffs,

kitchen utensils, bathrooms, tables and hand washing. Alkaline water is an efficient detergent and degreaser used to dissolve proteins, fats and oils. Common applications include cleaning kitchen utensils, appliances and large (floor) surfaces. The manufacturer states that EO-water also disinfects a wet surface which is not possible with chemicals that are alcohol based.

The basic principle is that at the anode, chlorine gas reacts with the water to produce Hypochlorous acid. As a result, the water from the anode has a pH of 3.0 or less (acidic water) with available chlorine of 20-60 mg. The Hypochlorous acid is up to 80 times more effective than chemicals and the chlorine generated is non residual, so will not remain on foods.

At the cathode, water decomposes into hydrogen and hydroxyl ions. Sodium hydroxide is generated with a pH typically of 11.0 (alkaline water). Sodium hydroxide is the compound found in soap products.

Advantages

Unlike traditional chemicals, EO-water is able to disinfect already wet surfaces which are impossible for alcohol-based chemicals to clean in a kitchen area. The ROX systems can eradicate a large number of bacteria, viruses, fungi and spores by 99 per cent in just 15 seconds. These pathogens can easily spread in commercial kitchens and public areas, causing serious damage.

The applications for EO water are most beneficial in the food service industry. When the work surface, utensils and the food itself is washed with EO-water, there is a reduced chance for bacteria to survive. Since it does not leave any residue behind, it will not affect the quality or taste of the food.

When it comes to costs, producing EO-water on a day-to-day basis is far smaller than most businesses would spend on traditional cleaning detergents. Through the widespread use of EO-water, the environmental cost is also significantly reduced. The range of ROX machines come in four models with a 1 year warranty - ROX 10, ROX 20, ROX 30 and ROX 60.

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