

# **ERAt**tech Environmental, Inc.

## **Newsletter for Restoration Contractors**

### **Special Interest Articles:**

- Sewer Backup: Why You Should Be Concerned
- Bacterial Contamination: Benefits of ATP Testing
- Doing Restoration? Get it Tested for Asbestos First!
- Fuel Oil Tanks & Hazardous Materials in Restoration Projects



## **Sewer Backup: Why You Should Be Concerned**

A sewer backup creates a stressful and emotional situation for the homeowner. Not only does a backup cause significant property loss, but typically a hidden health issue remains that could be a future claim against your business.

A proper response to a sewer backup can greatly minimize property damage and diminish the threat of illness.

While you likely know of many things that may cause a sewer line to back up, most plumbers and restoration contractors don't consider the biological and health concerns associated with a Category 3 water job.

What can you do to ensure your client and their children's health concerns are addressed? How do you determine if you have successfully sanitized the living space

after a sewer backup or other contaminated flooding? Every plumber and restoration contractor should be aware of the health risks after a cleanup is completed, and take appropriate measures to protect themselves from liability following S500 guidelines.

To find out what you should be doing to protect both your client and your company's reputation, continue reading!

## **Bacterial Contamination: Benefits of ATP Testing**

ATP testing produces immediate and accurate results that will allow you to determine if the cleaning and sanitation efforts by you or your workers have been properly and successfully completed.

ATP testing is a process of rapidly measuring actively growing microorganisms through detection of Adenosine Tri-Phosphate, or ATP.

Adenosine Tri-Phosphate is a molecule found only in and around living cells,

and as such it gives a direct measure of biological concentration and health.

ATP is quantified by measuring the light produced through its reaction with the naturally-occurring firefly enzyme Luciferase using a Luminometer. The amount of light produced is directly proportional to the amount of biological energy present in the sample.

So what does this mean to you and your company,

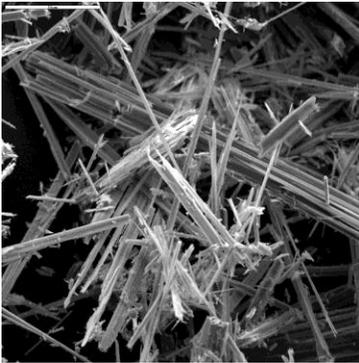
you ask? What benefit is there to you and your client?

On-site ATP testing by an independent consultant affords both you and your client the peace of mind in knowing the job has been completed to your top-notch standards, and to the satisfaction of your client.

Contact the experts at ERAttech Environmental today to get more information and pricing on this invaluable service!



**E. coli under high magnification.**



Asbestos fibers under scanning electron microscope.

*“Testing for ACM is required prior to any demolition activities....”*

## Doing Restoration? Get It Tested for Asbestos First!

Many contractors do not realize the potential liability they place upon themselves when they commence work on a remediation project.

It's an easy matter to overlook when starting a project. You send in your best crew to begin demo. Within a few days' time, you get a call or a letter from RAPCA (Regional Air Pollution Control Agency) regarding your current project.

She wants to know if you had a specialist perform an asbestos assessment on building materials prior to their demolition.

Testing for ACM (asbestos containing materials) is required prior to any demolition activities. Many contractors assume that because the building is relatively new, an ACM assessment isn't required.

Two items that are often

overlooked on many projects are drywall joint compound and 9"x9" floor tiles. These two very common materials are often times are found to be asbestos containing. Protect yourself and your reputation, and avoid the unpleasant call from a RAPCA representative. Get an independent ACM assessment on every job.

Call ERAtech today to request a complimentary asbestos fact sheet!



*“...each of these materials can require a specific set of sampling and analysis...”*

## Fuel Oil Tanks & Hazardous Materials in Restoration Projects

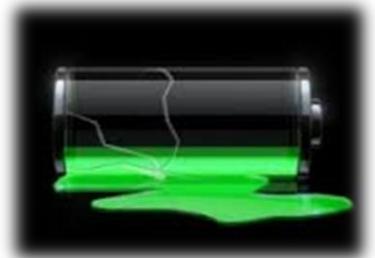
Fuel oil tanks, petroleum products, wastes, pesticides, and hazardous materials can create a unique situation to address for restoration companies.

Each of these materials can require a specific set of sampling and analysis to determine the complete removal of these materials after your restoration project is complete.

Water contaminated with these types of hazardous materials must also be tested and disposed of properly.

And not just water, but soils surrounding these types of jobs must be addressed as well. Recently, ERAtech was contracted to assist with a job site with lead-tainted ash, leftover from a fire which had contained several types of batteries.

ERAtech can provide assistance in handling these unique situations for you. Call ERAtech Environmental for the assistance you can count on.



**ERA<sup>®</sup>tech**  
Environmental, Inc.



## ERAtech Environmental, Inc.: What We Can Do For You

ERAtech Environmental, Inc. is an independent company that specializes in sampling and analysis of molds, asbestos, lead based paint, and bacterial monitoring, as well as Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site

Assessments.

The ERAtech advantage means that because we are independent, your business is protected from any perception of a conflict of interest. Also, because ERAtech Environmental is not in

any way involved in remediation and restoration, we are in no way competition to your business activities.

Call ERAtech today to discuss how working with us can enhance your services!