

Commercial Cleaning Best Practices for Warehouses and Logistics Facilities



**Executive
Report** >

Evaluating commercial cleaning options for your warehouse or logistics facility? Learn about best practices a commercial cleaning services provider should use.

Commercial Cleaning & Disinfection Best Practices for Warehouses and Logistics Facilities

A clean warehouse or logistics facility is not just about complying with state or federal regulations. When your facility is clean, it provides a safe, healthy environment for your employees, customers, and visitors. It also protects your investment because clean facilities have a longer life and need less maintenance over time. So, what are the best practices for cleaning warehouse, logistics facilities, and fulfillment centers? Here are a few things you can learn from [commercial cleaning](#) professionals.

Establish a Routine

If you want your facility cleaned correctly, set up a formal routine and structure. This includes compiling a master checklist of cleaning tasks that are to be done daily, weekly, monthly, and quarterly. The list should be detailed and should itemize each work area along with the commercial cleaning services that are required.

Minimize Downtime

Schedule cleaning to minimize downtime in your warehouse or logistics facility. An effective way to do this is to clean by zones. When one zone is cleared, employees can go back to work.

Cleaning from Top to Bottom

You should always clean by starting at the top and working your way to the bottom. This way, if dust and debris are dislodged, they fall to the bottom and you avoid having to clean the same areas twice. This is especially important if disinfection is included in your cleaning routine.



Cleaning Floors

Floor cleaning is one of the most important parts of maintaining your warehouse and logistics facility. Foot traffic and heavy equipment can take a toll on floors and poorly maintained floors are also significant safety hazards.

Most dirt on warehouse floors is dry particulate soil. It can accumulate quickly, detract from the appearance of your floors, and wear down surfaces. Cleaning floors in warehouses and logistics facilities requires special care. Use floor sweepers to remove any gritty materials or pallet chips so they do not get trapped in scrubber pads. Since these materials are abrasive, they could damage your floors if they get caught in the pads.

Scrubber dryers are also a good way to deep clean surfaces to get rid of dirt and grime that is hard to lift off floor surfaces. It will also dry your floors to help prevent slips, trips, and falls.

Cleaning Loading Docks

Loading dock areas tend to get less attention but it is one of the most important areas to clean because every product in your warehouse enters and exits through the loading docks. Each time a dock door is rolled up, dirt and dust are blown in. Loading and unloading items also brings in grit and dirt and equipment can leak oil and leave grime behind.

Minimize Stagnant Inventory

Products sitting on the shelves tend to gather dust. So, particular attention is needed in storage areas. Practicing lean operations strategies to minimize inventory also reduces holding costs and space requirements.

Training

[Commercial cleaning services](#) know training is essential to ensure superior cleaning and safety while cleaning warehouses and logistics facilities. Any service provider that is cleaning your facility should be trained in [OSHA workplace safety rules](#) as well as:

- How to handle bloodborne pathogens
- Proper use of personal protective equipment (PPEs)
- State and local health regulations
- Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)
- Proper and safe equipment operation

Employees should be trained as well. They need to understand the importance of keeping the workplace neat, to report any spills or problems immediately and how to clean and sanitize their own work areas.

Proper Supplies & Equipment

Cleaning crews should also be trained on the proper handling of cleaning chemicals and products. Mixing or using the wrong cleaning products can damage surfaces and could even create toxic gases.

Commercial cleaning services also ensure technicians are trained on best practices and safety in the use of industrial cleaning equipment. Warehouses and logistics facilities tend to attract a lot of dust. So, they need industrial-strength vacuums with **HEPA filters** that minimize the spread of germs and viruses, like COVID-19, as well as capture dust and debris and minimize spreading.

Infection Control

Understandably, infection control has become a top priority for most companies. Commercial cleaning services know that disinfection is a two-step process. The first step is to do a thorough cleaning because disinfection is not effective if surfaces are not cleaned first.

Only products listed on the **EPA's List-N Disinfectants** are effective for killing SARS-CoV-2, the virus responsible for COVID-19. It is important to follow the manufacturer's instructions and keep surfaces wet for the amount of time listed. If surfaces are wiped or allowed to dry before the proper dwell time, the product will not be effective.

Many companies are opting for longer-term protection programs such as **Continuous Care**, which is provided by OpenWorks' elite network of service providers. Operators use electrostatic sprayers to apply a long-lasting antimicrobial surface protectant that provides continuous protection from bacteria and microorganisms for up to 90 days.



Commercial Cleaning Services for Warehouses and Logistics Facilities

When you search the Internet for “commercial cleaning service near me” do not settle for the first company you find. Your facility is too important to trust to just anyone.

OpenWorks’ elite network of service providers is trained in every aspect of cleaning warehouses and logistics facilities, including best practices, and state and industry-related regulatory and compliance requirements.

With more than 35 years as an industry leader providing professional facility management and commercial cleaning services nationwide, OpenWorks has the skills, knowledge and experience to deliver the results you expect.

This is why OpenWorks’ has a 98% client retention rate versus the industry average of 45%. This is only possible when you consistently exceed customer expectations.





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