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Tap Water Instead of Cleaning Agents:

Salzburg Hotel Has Gone Chemical-Free for Five Years

For the past five years, the 4-star superior Hotel Alpin Juwel in Saalbach-Hinterglemm has been using nothing but regular tap water instead of cleaning agents.



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Surfactants, nitric acid, chlorine, and more — the composition of many cleaning agents resembles a toxic cocktail, often with negative consequences for both the environment and human health. A recent study by Indiana University ranks the aerosol exposure caused by cleaning as nearly equivalent to inhaling car exhaust fumes, with potential for cellular damage. But professional cleaning without chemical aggression is possible — as proven by Hotel Alpin Juwel.

Massive Cost Savings, Fewer Sick Days

For five years, the hotel has been relying on the Green Cleaning method. This high-tech cleaning process transforms ordinary tap water into micro-dry steam at 190°C and 9 bar pressure. The steam contains just 5% water and has excellent dirt-dissolving properties.

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It penetrates even the smallest microstructures, creating germ- and virus-free surfaces without leaving moisture. Alexander Schwabl, managing director of Alpin Juwel, explains:

“For the past five years, all areas in our hotel — from the kitchen and guest rooms to the bathrooms — have been cleaned exclusively using micro-dry steam. Even carpets, upholstery, and dusting curtains and radiators are handled with these devices. Our experience has been entirely positive.”

The hotel, with its 80 rooms, has reduced cleaning costs by about 40%, along with significant reductions in labor time and associated personnel costs. Similar improvements were seen in water usage: where typical hotel room cleaning uses 50–60 liters, the Green Cleaning method uses only 1.5 liters per room.

Schwabl adds:

“Cleaning is now 30% faster. And because our staff no longer comes into contact with harmful cleaning products, there are fewer sick days and allergy issues.”



The 4-star superior Hotel Alpin Juwel in Saalbach-Hinterglemm.

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High-Tech Micro Dry Steam Devices Are Not Your Average Steam Cleaners

Conventional steam cleaners operate at lower temperatures and contain up to 40% water. While they can remove dirt from hard surfaces, they're unsuitable for delicate materials due to the high moisture content, which can damage sensitive surfaces.

The new micro-dry steam devices developed by Medeco Cleantec in Germany use patented industrial technology to generate dry micro-steam at 190°C. These tiny steam particles lack surface tension and can penetrate the smallest pores — dissolving even the most stubborn dirt. The high temperature also provides thermal disinfection, as many pathogens are inactivated at 90°C.

Experts note a germ and virus reduction of over 4 LOG levels — compared to a maximum of LOG 3 for traditional mopping. As Fritz Pattis, managing director of Medeco Cleantec and inventor of the Green Cleaning concept, explains:

“Every cleaner — even organic or ‘natural’ ones — leaves residues. Think of the streaks on windows. These residues attract new dirt and provide breeding grounds for germs. In short, the more chemicals you use, the more unhygienic it gets. Our system uses only tap water to break this cycle — saving 100% of cleaning agents, protecting the environment, and cutting cleaning time by 30%.”



Alpin Juwel Managing Director Alexander Schwabl

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About the Micro Cleaner

The Micro Cleaner is the core of Medeco Cleantec's Green Cleaning concept. It uses micro-dry steam technology and is applied not just in hospitality, but also in healthcare (nursing homes, hospitals, clinics), supermarkets, and retail. It heats water to 190°C in a specialized boiler and produces dry steam with just 5% water content. This steam removes even the most stubborn dirt, dries quickly, and disinfects surfaces thermally.

About Medeco Cleantec GmbH

Founded in 2012 by Fritz Pattis in Salzburg, the company is headquartered in Rosenheim, Germany, with an Austrian branch in Gratkorn, Styria. Medeco Cleantec employs 10 internal staff and over 70 independent Green Cleaning consultants and experts. The company supplies distributors in multiple countries. Green Cleaning delivers hygienic cleanliness by eliminating chemical agents in daily cleaning. Micro Cleaners using hot micro-dry steam achieve high levels of hygiene and cleanliness without chemical residues.

www.medeco-cleantec.com

