

AMERICAN

# SCHOOL & UNIVERSITY

SHAPING FACILITIES & BUSINESS DECISIONS

JUNE 2002

## the new BREED

Today's schools  
are attracting  
a new crop of  
professionals  
to lead through  
turbulent times.

### ALSO INSIDE:

- ENERGY MANAGEMENT  
Creating a master infrastructure plan
- Furniture/Furnishings  
Accessorizing the learning environment
- FLOOR/CARPET MAINTENANCE  
Tips to effective floorcare
- SECURITY  
Keeping guns out of your school

MINOR SCHOOL



## Washroom updates

### Renovation exposes high costs of outdated washroom fixtures

**Bradley Corporation.** The Mecklenburg County, Va., school district began upgrading its high schools' and middle schools' washrooms and, in doing so, came across costly problems that affected four of its largest schools.

The problems went beyond restroom aesthetics, although updating the outdated look of the restrooms was a priority. The restroom facilities also were not standardized throughout individual restrooms, not to mention the district as a whole, and did not comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. These standardization and compliance issues were causing the district unnecessary maintenance costs.

Beginning in 1999, the school construction committee began its renovation effort, which included replacing all plumbing, sinks and lavatories, toilet partitions, washroom accessories, lighting, heating and flooring. When choosing products, they were most concerned about achieving a standard look across the district, ensuring ADA compliance, using the most cost-effective products and addressing the likelihood of vandalism. They also wanted to use highly durable materials that could be cleaned and maintained easily over time.

The district also replaced all water closets, along with flush valves and metal covers. The "knee" wall and lavatories also were removed, and cast-iron lavatories were replaced with two-station floor-mounted Express Lavatory Systems made of Terreon, an impact-resistant material that resists stains, burns and chemicals.

All toilet partitions were replaced with HDPE solid partitions, which are resistant to rust, dents and delamination, and were incorporated into an ADA-compliant stall design for the schools. All washroom accessories—mirrors, hand dryers and grab bars—were replaced and standardized throughout the district. **Circle 330**



Mecklenburg County, Va. school district washroom improvements.

## Wireless systems

**SpectraLink Corporation.** New wireless telephones are lightweight handsets that offer the flexibility of cordless and cellular phones, without airtime charges or usage fees. Interruptions from intercoms and messengers are minimized, allowing students to remain focused on learning. **Circle 300**



## Backup alarm

**Preco Electronics.** The 270 Bac-A-Larm 107 db backup alarm extends its alarm products to more than 40 different audible warning systems. It is targeted for vehicles that operate in environments where lower-decibel alarms may not be heard. The design is solid-state urethane encapsulated, black, glass-reinforced nylon for rugged applications. **Circle 302**



## Digital recording

**Silent Witness.** Digital Chaperone is an advanced digital recording system that is designed to increase student and driver safety on school buses. It is composed of the MDR100 mobile digital recorder with a suspension system. The recorder writes reliably to a hard drive even over the roughest of roads. **Circle 303**

## Emergency guide

**Tulipp.** In a convenient format, the *Everyone's Emergency Care Guide* is a useful tool in emergency situations. Students, faculty and staff can be victims of choking, poisoning, cuts and falls. Depending on weather, location and other commitments, emergency professionals may take a significant amount of time to arrive at the scene. The guide can be carried in a purse or the car, or put in a desk. **Circle 301**