

# Green Cleaning in Action

Columbia Public Schools, Columbia, MO

## Executive Summary

The Columbia Public Schools in Columbia, MO is the 10th largest school district in the state, educating over 18,000 students in 32 schools. It experienced immediate savings in equipment replacement, chemicals, and labor after adopting a new floor maintenance program using microfiber.

## Microfiber Floor Maintenance Saves District Thousands

When Columbia Public Schools embraced a more environmental approach to its custodial services, it realized many benefits, including recognition in the form of the American School & University's Green Cleaning Award for Best New Program and real savings to its bottom line.

Included in the district's "go green" program was switching to green cleaning products, paper, microfiber, and new green maintenance initiatives.

The new floor maintenance program eliminated the traditional approach and implemented Filmop's microfiber floor maintenance system.

### Floor Dusting Time Slashed

The district's new floor program incorporated several of Filmop's systems for floor maintenance and cleaning of flat surfaces.

"We started transforming the floor maintenance program beginning with the district's dust mopping," notes Dave Thompson, who guided the district through various green cleaning options. Thompson is the president of Green Clean Institute, which provides custodial training and certification.

The district replaced the use of cotton dust mops and mop oil with Filmop microfiber mops in sizes from the 24" flat mop to the super-sized, adjustable 72" V-sweep.

The time it took to dust mop classrooms was significantly decreased with the new system, as Filmop's quality microfiber clearly outperformed other products.

Hallways were finished in a fraction of the time with the oversized 72-inch equipment.

### \$26,000 Savings in Replacement Costs

Changing the damp mopping system meant replacing the traditional string mop and single bucket.

Using the Filmop double-bucket system and the unique Spin 'n Drop microfiber flat mop saved the district over \$26,000 in the first three years of implementation.

Prior to this change, the district spent \$17,000 each year on the traditional system of string mops, handles, wringers, and buckets.

### Chemical Savings = 35%

There is a lot of square footage of flooring to keep clean with 32 schools, and Columbia Public Schools was going through its share of floor cleaning chemicals.

Switching to a system using the dual-bucket and wringable microfiber mop, saved the district approximately 35% in floor cleaning chemical costs.

### 3 Quarts Cleans 4,000 Sq. Ft.

The district implemented a new approach to cleaning tabletops, desk, walls, and whiteboards with Filmop's Top-Down Microfiber System with 12" microfiber pads.

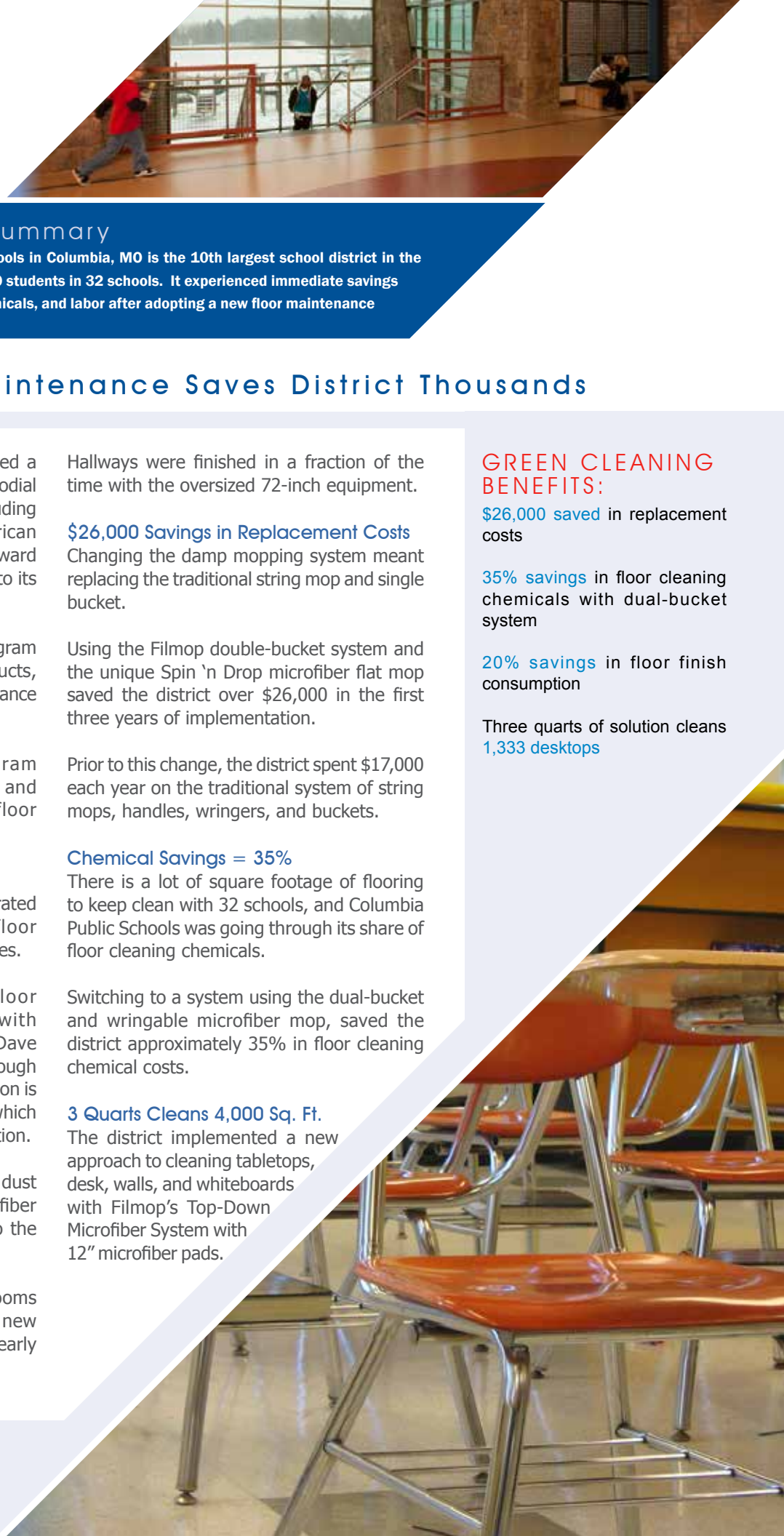
## GREEN CLEANING BENEFITS:

\$26,000 saved in replacement costs

35% savings in floor cleaning chemicals with dual-bucket system

20% savings in floor finish consumption

Three quarts of solution cleans 1,333 desktops





**Spin-N-Drop Tab  
Microfiber Mop**



**Dual Bucket  
System**



**Top-Down®  
Charging Bucket**



**V-Sweeper®  
Microfiber Mop**



**Microfiber  
Dust Mop**



**Hand Trowel with  
Rapido® Mop**



The system uses just three quarts of cleaning solution to charge up to 15 pads, which can clean up to 4,000 square feet of flat surfaces.

That translates into approximately 1,333 standard sized desks cleaned with just one Top-Down Charging Bucket, 96 ounces of cleaning solution, and 15 microfiber pads!

#### **20% Savings on Floor Finish**

The Filmop floor finish system enabled the district to decrease its consumption of floor finish by 20%. These savings were primarily accomplished by eliminating the string mops that absorbed the finish and hung onto it.

The Filmop system also eliminated the problem of how dispose of leftover contaminated floor finish and finish-saturated string mops.



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