

Press Release

Grand Victoria Casino helps customers breathe easier using Sparks Technology, Inc. products.

The Grand Victoria in Elgin is one of the first casinos in the area to take a hard look at environmental air quality issues.

Batavia, IL, June 6, 2001: When the Grand Victoria Casino in Elgin decided to improve its indoor air quality (IAQ), they only had to look as far as Batavia to find a company that could manufacture the best air handling system money could buy. Sparks Technology, Inc., an expert in applying molecular filtration technology, created an innovative air cleaning system that will revolutionize the gaming industry.

The most prevalent air quality concern for casinos such as the Grand Victoria in Elgin tends to be cigarette and cigar smoking and how to treat air contaminated with the thousands of particles, vapors and gases created when tobacco is burned. According to some studies, as many as 50 percent of the occupants in a casino may be smoking at the same time. And when you are open from 8 a.m. to 6 a.m. (that's 22 hours a day) every day of the week, that's a lot of tobacco smoke. Tobacco smoke consists of nicotine, tars, acetaldehyde, acrolein and many other substances that can irritate the human body.

The reason tobacco smoke is so hard to remove from the air is because these contaminants exist in many forms. Tar and nicotine, for example, exist in an aerosol-like vapor. In other words, every plume of smoke consists of tiny little droplets of liquid tar and nicotine. Acetaldehyde, for another example, is a gas.

To completely remove cigarette smoke and smell from the air, you have to remove the contaminants from the air. That means removing contaminants that are in gaseous, vapor and particulate forms. The air quality devices that were designed and manufactured by Sparks Technology, Inc. in Batavia are five stage systems - probably the most comprehensive systems ever made. These filtering systems blend several technologies (including patented BPS Technology*) to create a truly high-capacity, high-efficiency system. Activated Carbon equipment keeps recirculated air clean and odor-free, so less outside air is needed. This leads to cost savings in operating cooling and heating equipment as well as the related maintenance costs.

Also, because the equipment will reduce the tar residue that settles in a room, cleaning costs will also be reduced. Curtains, carpets, and upholstery do not as quickly accumulate the yellow-brown tar that stains and attracts particulate dirt. When the Sparks Technology, Inc. equipment is installed in a room already filled with smoke, it

takes only a few minutes for the smoke to be eliminated once the machine is turned on. The residual liquid tar that has already settled on walls and furniture can be eliminated only as fast as it evaporates because the equipment can clean it only in its airborne state. Depending upon how much smoking was done and how long it continued before the equipment was employed, it may take from hours to several days to finally eliminate the stale odor of tobacco from the room.

For information, call . . .