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Restroom Retrofits: What's Next?

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Klaus Reichardt, president of Waterless Co., Inc, takes a look at some of the developments that the industry will be seeing more of as development and evolution occur:

More mirrors. Additional "sight-line" mirrors will be installed, helping to increase security.

Labyrinth entries. Not only are these installed to eliminate the touching of doors, but studies also indicate they promote security.

Sound dampening. Restrooms will be quieter with more sound dampening materials installed in ceilings.

Outward swings. Partition doors are now being designed to swing outward. This allows users to open the door with their shoulders and avoid touching handles.

Water conservation. More restroom fixtures will be installed that surpass Federal water conservation regulations or use no water at all, such as waterless urinals.

Automated touch-less. Devices that automatically dispense soap, paper, water, etc. will become standard.

On demand hot water. More restrooms will have their own "on demand" hot water system and not depend on a facility's hot water source, helping to save energy.

Delayed flushing. Currently, some automatic restroom fixtures flush too quickly after use. The spray generated can soil the user and clothing. New flushing systems will have a delay to help avoid this.

Is your restroom ready for a retrofit? Along with the list of emerging features, advertising displays may be the next frontier for restrooms. Will marketing take off in restrooms and washrooms as well?

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