



**A**s one of the UK's leading manufacturers and suppliers of healthcare standard waste bins and sackholders, Environmental Hygiene Products has been supplying its sackholder range to the NHS and others for over 20 years and is now recognised as the leading provider of fire retardant bins in its field. Currently it is an approved supplier to the NHS via NHS Supply Chain (framework agreement number CM/COC/07/4887/01).

The company has recently had its range re-tested at Bodycote in Warrington, the industry standard testing body. The testing procedures are in accordance with the UK Government issued Health Technical Memorandum (HTM) 83, also known as the NHS

## Fire retardant bins

Firecode, which stipulates that non flammable bins with well fitting lids should be provided in all healthcare premises in the UK.

Gary Campbell, managing director of Environmental Hygiene Products, said: "We decided that we should have our products re-evaluated to the standards now recognised by the NHS. As before, the testing was successful and in fact, one by-product of the re-testing is that both the oil and shipping industries have now shown an interest due to the efficiency of the products in extinguishing any fires that may start within them."

The company's products have also shown that in real life,

potentially fatal fires can be stopped at source, through the design of the bins supplied. "A few years ago, one hospital had a fire started by some vandals in it's A&E department," explained Gary. "They overfilled the bin in question with newspapers and set them alight with a match. As the paper burned, the lid came down and sealed off the fire, extinguishing it within the bin before it had a chance to start."

The importance of the need to ensure fire retardancy in healthcare premises was also echoed by Tommy Hill, a trainer and technical consultant with the Fire Protection Association, who said: "I have videos of bins being used to start fires. They're

a target for the arsonist, so it's essential waste bins are fire retardant. Also, the smoking ban has pushed people into little used areas where they use the bins."

Environmental Hygiene Products can provide its fire retardant range in the full HTM 07-01 healthcare waste colour coding system and can also provide fire retardant recycling bins for use throughout healthcare premises. The company's range is available in 20, 50, 70 and 90 litre sizes, all of which are designed to fit the standard NHS approved bags and bin liners.

For more information, call Environmental Hygiene Products on 01862 893978 or visit [www.ehpl.net](http://www.ehpl.net)

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