

Germicidal UV-C Light



Hospitals & Medical Facilities



Introduction

Thank you for downloading our guide to germicidal UV-C lighting for hospitals and other medical facilities!

In this guide you'll find information about UV-C lighting for your specific needs.

Key Subjects

Here's what you can expect on the next few pages:

- What is germicidal UV-C light?
- A brief history of UV light disinfection
- UV-C lighting for hospitals and medical facilities
- UV-C light fixture options for you

Thanks again for your download. We hope this guide provides you with the information you need to choose UV-C light for your medical facility needs.

Justin Stouch

Justin Stouch, President, Stouch Lighting, Inc.

[Contact me directly!](#)

What is germicidal UV-C light?

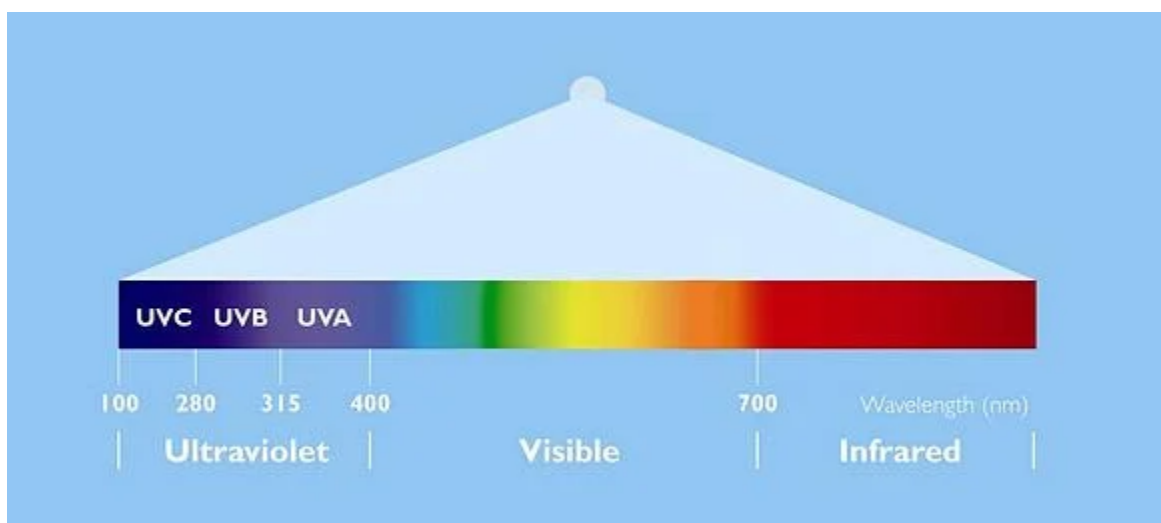
Before we define germicidal UV-C light, we need to define ultraviolet, or UV, light. [We also have a whole blog post on the basics of UV here.](#)

Ultraviolet light is a type of naturally present electromagnetic radiation that is in sunlight and actually makes up approximately 10% of the total light generated by the sun. UV light is electromagnetic energy with wavelengths shorter than visible light but longer than x-rays. The wavelength of this light ranges from 10nm to 400nm and is classified into three sub-bands; UV-A, UV-B, and UV-C.

UV light with wavelengths less than 290nm are considered to have “germicidal” properties. Germicidal means that the light can kill (inactivate) pathogens, just as it sounds. Earth’s atmosphere absorbs ultramagnetic radiation with wavelengths less than 290nm, meaning that most of the UV-C and UV-B generated by the sun is blocked by our planet’s ozone. **Germicidal UV-C light is commonly used to inactivate or kill microbes on surfaces, in air, and in water. When implemented properly, UV-C lighting can kill up to 99.9% of pathogens.**

Germicidal ultraviolet light kills pathogen cells by damaging their DNA. Exposure to the electromagnetic radiation (light) at certain UV wavelengths modifies the genetic material of microorganisms and destroys their ability to reproduce. The UV energy triggers the formation of specific thymine or cystosine dimers in DNA and uracil dimers in RNA, which causes the inactivation of microbes by causing mutations and/or cell death as well as failure to reproduce. ([source](#))

[Looking for UV-C disinfection systems? Click here.](#)



A Brief History of UV Light Disinfection

The disinfection properties of ultraviolet lighting have been known for over 140 years, since [Downes and Blunt](#) discovered the antibacterial effects of the shorter wavelengths of sunlight. Shortly thereafter, it was proven that the UV portions of the light spectrum were able to destroy microorganisms.

After confirming UV lighting's ability to kill pathogens, the next step was to find a way to replicate the UV wavelengths that would result in the disinfection of surfaces, air, and water. The first UV quartz lamp was invented in 1904 and resulted in the germicidal lamp.

Germicidal lamps are a type of lamp that produce the wavelengths of ultraviolet light (UV-C; 200nm to 280nm) that have disinfection properties, [like the ones used in this study to reuse N95 masks during the coronavirus pandemic](#).

UV disinfection unit in use in operating room:



UV-C Lighting for Hospitals & Medical Facilities

Healthcare facilities are perhaps the most obvious application for UV-C light disinfection, where infection and viruses run rampant and spread from patient to patient and room to room. It has been proven that manual cleaning, even with chemical cleaners, simply isn't enough. Moreover, adding just two minutes of UV-C "cleaning" along with manual cleaning efforts has been proven to [reduce bacterial load by 70%](#).

UV-C lighting can even kill "superbugs" ([more here](#)) as viruses and bacteria cannot become resistant to light-based methods of disinfection like they can with antibiotics and even chemical cleaners. In today's pandemic-stricken environment ([read more about how UV-C lighting is helping with the novel coronavirus](#)), you have to plan ahead and take advantage of our latest technologies, like UVGI products and systems.



Here are just some of the healthcare facility types that can benefit from germicidal UV-C light disinfection:

- Hospitals
- Surgical centers
- Urgent care centers
- Nursing homes and other senior living facilities
- Laboratories
- Dental offices
- Medical equipment storage facilities
- Pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities

UV-C Light Fixture Options For You

Germicidal UV-C lighting is versatile and available in different forms to suit its many applications.

Mobile UV-C Disinfection Units

Germicidal UV-C light systems are available in portable form as mobile UV-C disinfection units. These units or carts can be moved easily from room to room to disinfect multiple spaces. They're commonly used in hospitals and other medical facilities; after a patient room or operating room has been cleaned, for example, and is ready for the next patient, the mobile UV-C disinfection unit is placed in the room and activated to disinfect surfaces and air in that space. These units are usually on wheels or tripods and are easy to operate and transport.

UV-C Ceiling and Wall Fixtures

There are several options when it comes to the type of UV-C fixture for your space. Here are a few:

- **Ceiling installed-** These UV-C disinfection fixtures are hung from the ceiling of your facility, often recessed within the ceiling like a conventional troffer, or hung via chain or aircraft cable. Ceiling mounted UV-C light fixtures are extremely effective because you can space them apart appropriately to disinfect your specific space based on size and level of disinfection required.
- **Wall mounted-** Similarly to the ceiling installed fixtures, wall mounted fixtures can be spaced and installed for appropriate disinfection levels based on the size and contours of your facility.



Top 5 Blogs for You

Want to learn more about UV light disinfection? We have more content for you:

What is UVGI? What is UV Disinfection Lighting?

Frequently asked questions about ultraviolet germicidal irradiation, or UVGI.

Using UV Disinfection Lighting to Kill Coronavirus: FAQs, Part I

Does UV work on PPE? How long does it take? Who's using it? These questions and more answered.

Using UV Disinfection Lighting to Kill Coronavirus: FAQs, Part II

FAQs continued from the above post.

Is UV Light Safe? FAQs on Safely Using Ultraviolet Disinfection

How can I use the technology but also keep my employees and patrons safe? Learn here.

Do Sanitizing UV Wands Really Work?

The short answer: no. But why? We'll tell you in this post.



Contact Us To Get UV Lighting Units!

We can supply your hospital or medical facility with these germ-killing devices. Just fill out the form by clicking the button below.

[CLICK HERE](#)