

CASE STUDY

Whiz



WFF
Facility Services

ICE COBOTICS

SoftBank
Robotics



OVERVIEW

Cleaning for Health.

Since we started using the Whiz, we've been able to vacuum more frequently and pick up small dust and dirt our old vacuum couldn't."

DUSTIN LAMBRECHT,

Assistant & Manager, Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College

Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor, MI, is home to over 6,000 students and faculty members. One of the colleges goals is to make sure students have superb learning environment to excel academically and professionally - cleaning plays a major role in creating that environment.

To keep their buildings as healthy and as clean as possible, the college wanted to improve how they clean and how often they clean. To do this, WFF Facilities Services, contract cleaner of Lake Michigan College, partnered with ICE Cobotics, a global leader in cleaning equipment automation. Together, they launched a pilot program to implement Whiz, an autonomous vacuum sweeper, to help their cleaning team focus on other pertinent tasks by reassigning the mundane task of vacuuming.



THE CHALLENGE

A Consistent Clean Matters.

Lake Michigan College and WFF, like many other institutions and contract cleaners, are facing a challenging time with the lowest unemployment rate in decades. Absenteeism and finding qualified employees has made consistent cleaning challenging. The campus needs to be cleaned daily from carpets to surfaces. Automation guarantees them basic tasks like vacuuming will be done daily - leaving the cleaning staff more time to focus on other pertinent tasks.

THE SOLUTION

Off and Running.

ICE Cobotics worked on-site with the WFF team to show them how to teach Whiz cleaning routes. The staff caught on easily and quickly. Lambrecht said "Our longest route only took 15 minutes to setup and it's been smooth sailing since day one"

The team felt confident knowing ICE Cobotics would provide follow-up support as needed. The trial period ran through February, and the college has had Whiz officially running as of mid-March.

WFF's team runs Whiz everyday and a few times at night to tackle high traffic areas in the Mendel Center. Whiz cleans hallways, common areas, and their event spaces. The students on campus love watching Whiz at work and many test just how good it's obstacle capability is - ICE Cobotics is happy to confirm 100% of obstacles have been avoided.

WHY DID WFF & LAKE MICHIGAN COLLEGE CHOOSE ICE COBOTICS?

Regional Director of Technical Support and Procurement at WFF Facility Services, John Ostermann, interest in robotics compelled him to search and test many robots over the past 3 years. Thanks to John and his forward-thinking approach in education, Whiz is helping Lake Michigan College get ahead of the curve.

THE RESULTS

A Healthier Environment For Students.

Since deploying Whiz, Lake Michigan College has upped their production rate significantly. So much so, they deployed two more Whiz's last week. By automating the vacuuming of hallways and event spaces in the Mendel Center, Whiz has helped the cleaning staff reclaim precious cleaning time to focus on other high demand tasks. Automation has left the staff rest assured their buildings are clean for the students and faculty to excel in a healthy environment.

John Ostermann, Regional Director of Technical Support & Procurement at WFF Services, said Whiz's subscription model eliminated a large upfront investment for the college and cut extra monthly costs on maintenance and parts. This was the deciding factor when considering a robotic solution."

The Results: Staff are
happier and Lake Michigan
College can look forward to
healthy and happy students.

ICE COBOTICS

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