



NOOSA Pirates Rugby League Club will be the first sporting club in Australia to use a revolutionary “surface coating” product and procedure to keep players and visitors safe from life-threatening super bugs.

The club has joined forces with Queensland Company Environmental Coating Solutions (ECS) to apply the highly advanced SAS [*Surface Antimicrobial System*] to its changing rooms, showers and toilets.

“This is a great step forward for sporting facility managers to provide the best possible protection for players and supporters,” said Pirates President Chris O’Grady

“Our club has chosen to take a proactive approach in minimising the risk of infection to players and supporters, rather than a reactive one in a climate of infection uncertainty.

“We see the SAS system playing an integral part in the Noosa Pirates’ duty of care to players, supporters and sponsors.”

Golden staph infections have threatened the future of rugby league matches at Nambour’s Crusher Park.

Caboolture players Matt Morris and Nik Taylor claimed they contracted golden staph following a match at the rain-drenched field in June.

Reserve grade player Jess Osborn also contracted a staph infection in three fingers, while team mate John Saunders said he was off work for three days with an infected knee.

The players have since refused to play at Nambour.

Brisbane Lions also launched an urgent inquiry into the origins of a mysterious super bug last month, after a second player contracted a post-operative infection.

Assistant coach Craig Brittain contracted the same staph infection that ruined rising star Matthew Leuenberger’s season.

Staph is the shortened name for Staphylococcus, a type of bacteria that can live harmlessly on many skin surfaces.

When skin is punctured or broken for any reason, staph bacteria can enter the wound and cause an infection.

If it finds its way into the bloodstream, it can lead to infections in other parts of the body, such as the lungs, bones, joints, heart, blood, and central nervous system.

In severe cases it can lead to amputation or death.

“There are no ironclad guarantees when it comes to bacteria and infection, but we see the SAS treatment to our facilities as a big leap forward in the right direction in reducing the risk,” said Mr O’Grady.

ECS is the first Company outside the USA to be appointed an exclusive distributor and accredited applicator of SAS Products and Technology including SurfaceAide 1000, by Michigan-based Company, CSG [*Coating Solutions Group*].

“The advanced antimicrobial power of SurfaceAide 1000 is vastly superior to any other technology on the market for several key reasons,” said ECS Managing Director Ian Mossman.

“Most importantly, the unique, water-based antimicrobial application fights a wide variety of microbial growth 24 hours a day on almost any surface for up to three years with one application, and will not create adaptive organisms or ‘super bugs’ like MRSA.”

Mr Mossman also noted that ECS through their partnership with CSG are now one of the world leaders in sustainable, environmentally beneficial surface treatments.

Through the use of two advanced and proven technologies which include SAS and PURETi, they provide a range of products that are applicable to any surface or fabric that proactively fights microbial contamination, minimize damaging air pollutants, destroy odour, and conserve water and energy.

Our comprehensive product and service offerings are supported by 13 international patents and include a host of EPA [USA] registered products.

To learn more about the unique benefits of our surface treatments and join the thousands of governments and businesses that call on ECS and CSG for comprehensive, sustainable solutions visit the ECS website [www.envirocoat.com.au](http://www.envirocoat.com.au) or contact our offices as listed below.

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