

FEBRUARY 2018

Fire Restoration - Hospital ward

A large hospital sustained substantial soot and smoke damage when a patient ignited a fire in their room. The fire quickly engulfed the room and sent soot and smoke throughout a dozen rooms and hallways of the ward. Once the fire was extinguished, hospital staff were able to survey the damage and determine what rectification works were required. The ceilings, frames and other fixtures of the room where the fire started were thermally damaged beyond Restoration and required deconstruction and repair works by a licensed builder, whilst the other rooms and corridors of the ward were covered in soot and required a detailed professional decontamination. Hospital management engaged their normal contract cleaners to remove the soot from the walls, floors, ceilings etc., but unfortunately the general cleaners didn't have the necessary skills and experience to complete the job properly and finished up leaving soot smeared all over the walls. The Insurer engaged a Senior Loss Adjuster to assess the claim and coordinate the Restoration works. The experienced Loss Adjuster understood the need for a professional restorer in this case and therefore engaged ADR to provide the required professional Restoration services. ADR's experienced on-site supervisor attended site to inspect the damage and form a scope of works for the ADR Restoration team. He began by performing a site specific risk assessment, then compiling a Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) for the project. The Operators divided into two teams, one removed contents such as beds, drawer units etc. from the affected rooms so they could be professionally cleaned in a separate staged area while the other team decontaminated the soot from structures and fixtures. The Operators systematically processed each affected room with a series of well established procedures to remove the residual soot from each surface, effectively decontaminating each room and corridor within the tight deadlines requested by the hospital management. Although ADR was able to remove the soot, some of the rooms suffered staining which can not be removed by cleaning, therefore those rooms required sealing and painting by a painting contractor before the rooms were able to be used again. Once the decontamination of the contents and structures was completed, ADR staff returned the furniture to each room ready for the ward to reopen.



FIRE/SOOT/SMOKE DAMAGE MITIGATION



Soot can have a serious detrimental effect on some materials, such as pitting or staining in aluminium windows etc., therefore any fire damage claim should be attended to as soon as possible to mitigate further loss by removing soot from sensitive materials such as aluminium or steel. ADR have been providing urgent soot mitigation services for over two decades and are well equipped to respond to our customers mitigation requirements.

COMIC RECOVERY

"Yes Sir we could clean the smoke stains off the walls of your teenagers bedroom, but perhaps you should tell her to stop 'burning incense' in there."



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