

## **AlSCO First in Its Industry to Earn NSF Commercial Laundry Certification**

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Salt Lake City, UT – AlSCO, a linen and uniform rental company, is the first in the commercial linen rental industry to earn NSF certification, which verifies AlSCO’s effectiveness in cleaning napery that is used in hospitality and foodservice operations.

NSF International, a global leader in public health, developed the Commercial Laundering Certification program to verify that laundering facilities have quality control measures in place for cleaning napkins, tablecloths, towels, and other linens and fabrics used in hospitality and foodservice operations.

The first consensus-based protocol developed under the program is for napery products (NSF P413: *Hygienically Clean Napery in Commercial Laundering Operations*). Protocols and testing procedures ensure the laundering process is capable of consistently removing potential pathogens or other unacceptable bacterial organisms from soiled napery.

"Restaurants and hotels rely on commercial linen cleaning services to ensure the disinfection and removal of soil and bacteria from linens before they are returned for reuse. NSF International's Commercial Laundering Certification program provides assurance that an effective cleaning process has been implemented at certified facilities through auditing the laundering facility and testing linen samples to ensure harmful bacteria and other pathogens are effectively removed," said Ashlee Breitner, Business Unit Manager of NSF International's Commercial Laundering and Nonfood Compounds Certification programs.

AlSCO's laundry facilities throughout North America have earned certification. AlSCO's laundered napery products are NSF certified to be hygienically clean, including their Milliken *Signature*® Napkins, Milliken *Signature*® Table Cloths and *Bon Appétit*™ Napkins.

"Now restaurants using AlSCO’s NSF hygienically clean certified table linens can be assured that AlSCO’s napkins and tablecloths not only protect their customers from the bacteria that may be found on tables and other surfaces, but also that the linens themselves are hygienically clean," said Jim Divers, Director of Sales and Marketing for AlSCO.

To earn certification, AlSCO passed a rigorous certification process, which included:

1. **Desk audit:** All laundering facilities must submit for review an Organizational Management System, which establishes the control points in the laundering process that are documented, monitored, and audited.
2. **On-site facility audit:** NSF auditors visit all laundering facilities to ensure compliance to the certification program as well as the facility’s Organizational Management System. This includes on-site inspections of everything within the process from wash resources to the wash procedure to the handling of the final product.
3. **Product testing:** Microbiological testing is conducted on samples of laundered products to confirm the repeatability and validity of the laundering facility’s effectiveness in removing harmful pathogens and bacteria.

Product testing and audits will be conducted at all of AlSCO's certified commercial laundering facilities in a five-year rotation to ensure ongoing compliance with the program requirements. By earning certification, AlSCO now is able to use the NSF Commercial Laundering Certification mark on marketing and other product promotional materials. The NSF mark is a symbol recognized and trusted within the food industry and by consumers.

For more information about AlSCO's NSF certification or its laundering and rental services, please visit [AlSCO.com](http://AlSCO.com).

**About AlSCO:** AlSCO Inc. was the first company to introduce linen and uniform rental services to the world in 1889. Since then, AlSCO has continued its history of being first in the industry with its invention of the continuous towel dispenser, the pioneering of garment lockers, and now as the first NSF certified commercial laundering and rental company. With over a century of business experience, AlSCO continues to be a leader in its industry. AlSCO has more than 16,000 employees and over 150 branches worldwide. AlSCO services include rental, leasing and laundry services for linens and uniforms, washroom and hygiene products, and direct-purchase options for a variety of garments and linens.

**About NSF International:** NSF International is a global independent organization that writes standards, and tests and certifies products for the water, food, health sciences, and consumer goods industries to minimize adverse health effects and protect the environment ([nsf.org](http://nsf.org)). Founded in 1944, NSF is committed to protecting human health and safety worldwide. Operating in more than 155 countries, NSF International is a Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center on Food Safety, Water Quality and Indoor Environment.

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