

## Fed Up With Graffiti

- Division 9's Mike Morris Creates Stain-Fighting Product

By LISA HUYNH

(March 19, 2003) Five years ago, Division 9's Mike Morris got fed up with graffiti-scarred bus seats.

So, Morris, a service attendant leader, teamed up with chemist Mickey Walker from High Desert Products to create a biodegradable and organic product that removes ink, gum, paint and stickers.

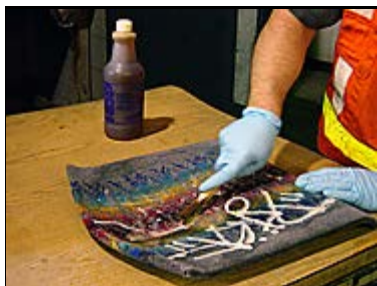
Service Attendant Leader Mike Morris removes paint from a bus seat, using a breakthrough product that he co-created.



PHOTOS: LISA HUYNH

"It was important to me to create a product that is safe and friendly to the environment," says Morris, a service attendant leader. "I used to use other cleaning products, but it would give me rashes."

Graffiti is easily removed with a bristle brush after soaking in the product for only a minute.



Morris says his product is easy to use.

When a seat has graffiti on it, it is manually removed and taken to the division's cleaning station. The next step is to pour a generous amount of the solution on the stain.

After a minute of soaking, it can then be removed with a bristle brush without fading the color of the seat.

### Nothing it can't remove

"We're the only the division that is currently using the product," says Morris. "The product is great. There's nothing that I've seen that it can't take off."

Before Morris created the cleaning product, Division 9 had to throw away the graffiti-scarred seats, which could cost more than \$100 to replace.

A one-quart bottle of the graffiti-removing product costs about \$6 and is sufficient for 20 cleanings.

Morris says this is a great way to save the agency money because the buses can get hit by graffiti every day.

"We try to keep our buses clean because we want to treat our riders as if they were a part of our family here at Division 9," says Morris.

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