

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SLEEP TIGHT AND, WELL, YOU KNOW THE REST:

TRAVEL TIPS TO KEEP THE BED BUGS FROM BITING

July 16, 2015 (Ambler, PA) – When you and your family travel this summer, make sure you don't bring home any unwanted souvenirs, namely bed bugs.

Bed bugs are an ongoing and enormous problem for the travel industry – from airlines and cruise ships to hotels, motels, and every place in between.

Just Google it. Every day there are news reports of hotels, lodges, cruise ships, and other guest accommodations battling the pests, as well as reports of families whose vacations were ruined because of them. Whether the room is budget-friendly or high-end luxury, bed bugs don't discriminate based on cleanliness or income.

"Bed bugs are world-class hitch-hikers," according to [Joseph Latino](#), President, [Allergy Technologies](#), a company that manufactures innovative pest control and health management products for hotels, cruise ships, senior living facilities, and private homes. "Once a bed bug gets into your home, infestation is swift. Prevention is the key."

Today, statistics show nine out of 10 pest control professionals have battled bed bugs in apartments, condos and single-family homes, where people are most vulnerable. But even more alarming for those on vacation is that 75 percent of pest control professionals have also treated bed bugs in the hotels and motels they service.

"Treatment can be very costly," said Latino. "And there's no guarantee against future infestation unless you take proactive preventive action. What takes an even bigger toll is the lost revenue due to reputational damage, especially since every customer review lives online forever."

A recent study done by researchers in the U.K. found that a single report of bed bugs in recent traveler reviews lowers the value of a hotel room by \$38 a night for business travelers and \$23 for leisure travelers.

"For a 300-room hotel, this could mean a loss of over \$2 million a year," said Latino. "Preventive measures make good economic sense, and help hotel guests rest easier."

Allergy Technologies offers a few simple travel tips to help keep bed bugs at bay.

1. **Never put luggage on the carpet or bed.** When you arrive in your room, put luggage, coats, purses, and backpacks on a hard, non-fabric-covered surface, like a dresser, luggage rack, the bathroom's tiled floor, or even in the shower or bathtub.
2. **Do a thorough inspection of the room.** Slide a credit card between the headboard and the wall. Live bed bugs are flat, reddish-brown in color, and about the size of an apple seed. They typically hide during daylight hours and can be difficult to detect. Use a flashlight if you have one. Inspect all areas on, under, and around the bed. Look for dark brown or rusty blood stains along

mattress seams, box spring edges and corners. Dried bed bug shells (they shed or molt) are often found on the bed or floor.

3. **Store clothing in sealed plastic bags.** When you return home, take the bags straight to the laundry. Wash and dry all clothing on the hottest temperature the fabric will allow for 30 minutes.
4. **Properly store luggage at home.** Never store suitcases under your bed or in or around sleeping areas. Basements, garages, or attics are better choices.
5. **Sleep tight.** Protect beds at home with *ActiveGuard*[®] Mattress Liners, or pack one in your luggage when you travel. They are as simple to use as a fitted sheet, and have been proven to stop bed bugs from biting within 10 minutes of contact, and kill them within 72 hours. When used as directed, the liners keep on working for up to two years.
6. **Book smart.** The next time you make a travel reservation, ask the hotel if they have a bed bug prevention program in place, such as the use of *ActiveGuard*[®] Mattress Liners.

For more information about bed bugs and how to prevent them, visit www.allergytechnologies.com.

About Allergy Technologies

Allergy Technologies LLC is committed to the creation and manufacture of innovative, effective and consumer-friendly products addressing major issues in both pest control and healthcare. The managers and employees of Allergy Technologies are stewards of the community and environment, making meaningful contributions to impactful philanthropic causes. Consistent with the PhilanprofitSM spirit of its founder, a portion of all Allergy Technologies profits are dedicated to improving the lives of others.

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