



**For Immediate Release**

Oct. 21, 2009

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## **Monsters in the Mattress**

*Protect-A-Bed® keeps the creepy crawlies away this Halloween*

**Chicago (Oct. 21, 2009)** – Blood-sucking creatures hunt in the night. Invisible monsters feast on human flesh. It's not a Halloween horror flick; it's just another night on a mattress in the USA. So, put away the wooden stakes and zombie survival kits, and prepare to fight bed bugs and dust mites.

If you fear blood-sucking monsters in the night, vampires are the least of your worries. The bed bug resurgence in the United States has countless individuals across the country itching and losing a few drops of blood. The National Pest Management Association estimates a 71 percent increase since 2001 in the number of bed bug calls pest management companies are receiving. Bed bugs have been found in all 50 states, from apartments, to movie theaters, to libraries, to busses, to schools, to five-star hotels. No place is immune to these masterful hitchhikers.

Bed bugs, while difficult to find, are not invisible. The typical adult bed bug is 1/4 inch to 3/8 inch in size and is a rust brown color. Bed bug nymphs and eggs are clear/white, much smaller and very difficult to see. From the moment a bed bug hatches, its only goal is to find its next blood meal. And for these nocturnal creatures, a mattress is the best place to look.

So, if bed bugs are the vampires of the mattress, then mattress encasements are a bed's garlic. Mattress and box spring encasements like those offered by Protect-A-Bed create bite proof barrier around a bed. The company's BugLock® with Secure Seal® three-sided zipper system won't allow the blood sucking monsters to take up permanent residence within a mattress, making it easier for pest control companies to identify and eliminate them.

Now that we've been introduced to the vampires of the mattress, let's meet the flesh-eating mattress zombie, otherwise known as the dust mite. These little monsters are nearly invisible and feed on your discarded dead skin. It's easy to overlook these creatures since you can't see them and they don't eat skin you're actually using, but they can wreak havoc on those with allergies.

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The fecal matter dust mites produce is a significant cause of allergy symptoms like itchiness, sneezing, inflamed or infected eczema, watering eyes, congestion and runny nose. These symptoms are particularly problematic for those with asthma.

Like zombies, dust mites have an advantage when in large numbers. To keep them from accumulating, AllerZip® mattress and pillow products from Protect-A-Bed are your best bet. These products create an impenetrable barrier between dust mites and the bedding, preventing them from establishing zombie-esque colonies. And, since they are waterproof and breathable, they are cool and comfortable to sleep on.

So, this Halloween prepare for the creatures you'll most likely encounter by visiting [www.protectabed.com](http://www.protectabed.com). The company has the right products for all the monsters that could be living in your bed.

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#### **About Protect-A-Bed®**

Protect-A-Bed offers consumers a complete line of protective bedding products to create a *Healthy Sleep Zone*. The unique technology featured in Protect-A-Bed's mattress and pillow protectors was developed in South Africa in 1980 before the company was officially established in the United States in 2000. Now selling in 27 countries, Protect-A-Bed is a worldwide leader in mattress protection innovation. The company developed the proprietary Miracle Membrane® and patented Bug Lock® three-sided zipper system with Secure Seal®, which help create a dry, bed bug free, anti-allergy sleep zone for people of all ages. Protect-A-Bed products are listed as a Class 1 Medical Device with the Food and Drug Administration and have received the Good Housekeeping Seal. For more information, visit [www.protectabed.com](http://www.protectabed.com).