

Reusable Respirator Cleaning and Disinfecting Guidance

Cleaning and disinfection are normal considerations in typical respiratory protection programs with cleaning and disinfection required: as often as necessary to maintain the respirator in a sanitary condition, before being worn by different individuals, and after each use in fit testing and training. Cleaning and disinfection per WHO and US CDC guidance must be conducted in line with manufacturer use instructions for the respirator.

Scott Safety evaluates only the compatibility of its PPE with cleaning and disinfection agents. The efficacy of specific cleaning and disinfection agents for Ebola should be determined by the guidance of or consultation with the disinfection agent manufacturer and infection control authorities.

- For European and Australian products, Scott respirators may be disinfected with Distel® wipes. ○ Note: Face and eye PPE can also be cleaned with Distel® wipes.

- For Americas products, Scott respirators may be disinfected with Wescodyne®. ○ The Xcel and Xcel HS elastomeric half mask have been evaluated for compatibility with several common disinfectants and may be disinfected using: liquid diluted quaternary ammonium, chlorine bleach with water (1:64 ratio), and isopropyl alcohol.

- Rubber harness AV series and Promask facepieces may be disinfected using chlorine bleach with water (1 teaspoon per gallon).

Use of non-approved disinfectants with Scott respirators may damage the respirator or reduce the expected operating life of the respirator, thereby requiring replacement after use and/or more frequent replacement of serviceable components such as valves and head harness straps.

Good hand hygiene before and after touching the respirator should be practiced, along with avoiding touching the inside of the respirator when donning and doffing. The use instructions provided with the respirator must be followed to minimize the chance for damage to the respirator during cleaning and disinfection cycles.

For air purifying respirators, the respirator components (mask and filter) should be separated along with whatever other sub components are specified in the use instructions. Cleaning per the use instructions should be completed and the components disinfected with the selected disinfection agent by thoroughly wiping the free surfaces which may have come in contact with the infectious agent. Following the disinfection, the components should be rinsed and allowed to air dry. Under no circumstances should solvents, hot water, bleaching agents, or drying by radiant heat be used, unless otherwise stated above. Filter elements should only have the outer housing surface wiped and are never to be submerged in water or other liquids. Finally, all components should be inspected and reassembled per the use instructions.

For powered air purifying respirators, the respirator components (headtop, hose, blower, and filter) should be separated along with whatever other sub components are specified in the use instructions. Cleaning and disinfection guidance is the same as above with the exception that care must be taken to avoid contamination and/or introduction of liquids (e.g. water) into the breathing hose and clean breathing path so as not to contaminate and or damage the air handling components (e.g. motor and control electronics).

In all cases, disposal of the respirator and its components must be carried out in accordance with local regulatory requirements.

See appendix for a list of Scott Safety products.

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