

EU Product Cleaning Guidance Respiratory Protection Equipment



Brief Issue Date: **April 20, 2020**

Based on guidance, from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) regarding COVID-19, the following cleaning methods may be used for Respiratory Protection Equipment, inclusive of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, Air Purifying Respirators, Powered Air Purifying Respirators, and related accessories (adapters, cylinders, etc.).

Routine Cleaning

Before using a disinfectant, conduct routine cleaning in accordance with the user manual to remove dirt and other contaminants.

Disinfection Guidance

For COVID-19, CDC recommends the use of cleaning products with EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens claims. CDC refers to List N on the EPA website (<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>) for EPA-registered disinfectants that meet this guidance.

- MSA's Confidence Plus 2 cleaner is included on List N based on its EPA Reg. No., which begins with 47371-130. The active ingredients in Confidence Plus 2 are quaternary ammonium compounds, which are compatible with MSA's products.
- Other disinfectants on EPA List N may be used if they have quaternary ammonium compounds as their active ingredients and an EPA Reg. No. starting with 47371-129, 47371-130, 47371-131, or 47371-192.
- In European markets where Confidence Plus 2 or other EPA-registered disinfectants may not be available, alternative cleaning products that are water-based and have equivalent concentrations of quaternary ammonium compounds include EW80 mat disinfectant, Ecolab Incidin Rapid, and Ecolab Sekumatic FDR.
- It is important to follow the cleaning product manufacturer's instructions, including contact time to achieve disinfection. EPA List N also provides guidance on contact time.
- After using disinfectants, it is recommended that you fully rinse or wipe down the product to remove any residue that may impact the product over time.

Caution Regarding Use of Other Chemicals with MSA Respiratory Products

The CDC has provided guidance on disinfection using a solution of 2% bleach in water (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cleaning-disinfection.html>) and the EPA's List N includes a variety of other cleaning products, many of which have different active ingredients than Confidence Plus 2 (e.g., free chlorine, sodium or potassium hypochlorite, chlorine

dioxide, peroxides, etc.). ECDC does refer to the use of 0.1% sodium hypochlorite (https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/Environmental-persistence-of-SARS_CoV_2-virus-Options-for-cleaning2020-03-26_0.pdf). Such products may be used to disinfect MSA respiratory protection products if no other cleaning products are available that meet the criteria identified in this memo. Users are cautioned, however, that repeated longer-term use of these solutions may degrade some components of MSA products. Users must maintain stringent pre-use inspection procedures as outlined in the user manual to ensure the continued integrity of the products following repeated use of these solutions.

Advice Regarding Filter Cartridges

Cartridge exterior. The exterior of the cartridge body may be wiped down using one of the cleaners described above. Care must be taken to ensure that liquid disinfectant solution does not touch the surface of the filter media itself. With all cleaning products, follow the manufacturer's instructions, including contact time to achieve disinfection.

Filter media. At this time there is no recommended method for disinfecting the filter element. CDC has provided guidance for healthcare settings regarding cartridge reuse. According to CDC, conventionally, filter cartridges are generally discarded after an authorized use. On an interim emergency basis during contingency and crisis emergency use, CDC advises that:

- Filter cartridges (except for unprotected disc type, i.e., pancake style) may be used for an extended period, if the cartridge is disinfected after each patient interaction provided the disinfectant or cleaning agent does not come in contact with the filter media; and
- Filter cartridges must not be dipped or immersed in a cleaning or disinfection solution because this may damage or render the filter material ineffective. When using a cleaning or disinfectant wipe on the external surface of a filter cartridge, users should avoid contact with the filter media on the inside of the cartridge.

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Please Note

MSA relies on the expertise of CDC, EPA, ECDC, and the other cited authorities, and has not evaluated the effectiveness of these cleaning agents against COVID-19. To the extent the guidance in this Bulletin may go beyond the information in your user manual, it applies only in the context of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) provides limited protection and may help to reduce exposure to biological agents and the risk of viral infection but **IMPORTANTLY IT DOES NOT ELIMINATE** the risk of exposure, infection, illness, or death, including with respect to SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19. MSA does not warrant the efficacy of any of its PPE products, or of the information or products in this Bulletin, in preventing the spread and/or contraction of coronaviruses. It is your responsibility to determine what cleaning products and methods are suitable for your intended use and consistent with guidelines from your employer and the relevant health authorities. MSA disclaims liability for any loss or damage arising from any information contained herein, whether direct, indirect, special, incidental or consequential, regardless of the legal or equitable theory asserted, including warranty, contract, negligence or strict liability.

The situation with COVID-19 is rapidly evolving. As such, this guidance may be updated as circumstances warrant. Please visit MSA COVID-19 Resource Center (<https://us.msasafety.com/coronavirus>) to ensure that you have the latest version. Furthermore, organizations like the CDC are providing updated information and guidance as it becomes available. For the most-up-to date information on COVID-19, you should regularly consult guidance being published by national and international organizations, such as the CDC, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the World Health Organization (WHO), the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), and/or your local health authority. Guidance on COVID-19, including information on actions needed to prevent, control, and manage contact with the virus, is available at the following websites:

US CDC	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html
US NIH	https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-officials-discuss-novel-coronavirus-recently-emerged-china
WHO	https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus
ECDC	https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/coronavirus

Note: This Bulletin contains only a general description of the products shown. While product uses and performance capabilities are generally described, the products shall not, under any circumstances, be used by untrained or unqualified individuals. The products shall not be used until the product instructions/user manual, which contains detailed information concerning the proper use and care of the products, including any warnings or cautions, have been thoroughly read and understood. Specifications are subject to change without prior notice.

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