



Slow the Spread of COVID-19 with Proper Cleaning of Electrical PPE

Due to the cross-contamination challenges impacting our industry caused by COVID-19 Enespro has updated our Care and Maintenance Guidelines for Electrical PPE, incorporating important CDC guidelines and references to ASTM F496.

- The CDC states coronavirus can remain viable on surfaces of many materials, up to a day on porous surfaces and several days on hard surfaces such as plastic and rubber.
- Cleaning visibly dirty surfaces followed by disinfection is a best practice for prevention of COVID-19 and other viral respiratory illnesses.
- CDC makes distinctions between cleaning and disinfecting:
 - **Cleaning** refers to the removal of germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. It does not kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection.
 - **Disinfecting** refers to using chemicals, for example, EPA-registered disinfectants, to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs, but by killing germs on a surface *after* cleaning, it can further lower the risk of spreading infection.

Enespro recommends against use of in-field applications of disinfectants to electrical arc flash and shock protective PPE. Your electrical PPE may be temporarily removed from service for cleaning in accordance with these guidelines. The majority of household disinfectants on the market today can adversely affect the performance of electrical PPE. Any potential use should be thoroughly evaluated and tested before they are used on arc rated and/ or shock protective PPE.

Quick References

- Detergent and warm water perform well across various components
- Eliminate the practice of sharing electrical PPE with multiple employees unless it is thoroughly cleaned after every use. Please note, issuing each employee their own electrical PPE is strongly recommended.

NOTE: Care & Maintenance procedures vary for different arc flash kit components (i.e. diluted bleach solutions may be an acceptable step in cleaning voltage rated rubber gloves, but it is prohibited in cleaning arc rated apparel or face shield care).

Please direct questions to your Regional Manager or Contact Enespro PPE corporate offices at 866.680.4950.

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Arc Flash Suit Cleaning Instructions

- Machine wash in warm water
- Use recommended amount of quality detergent
- **Do not use** chlorine or peroxide bleach
- **Do not use** fabric softeners or starch
- Wash separately from other garments
- Do not shake garments
- Avoid spray disinfectants
- Wipe inside storage areas, common contacts points of PPE Storage Bag with disinfectant wipes often (i.e. handles and shoulder straps)

NOTE: Efforts to disinfect garments between shared users while in the field by using disinfectant sprays should be avoided. Spray disinfectants may contain aerosols and other additives that are flammable. The CDC reports that proper washing with detergent and warm water is very effective in removing the COVID-19 virus.

Cleaning Instructions for Arc Rated Face Shields & Hoods

- Separate the hood from the face shield and wash the hood according to the “Arc Flash Suit Cleaning Instructions” referenced above
- Wipe face shield with a clean soft, damp cloth to help remove debris
- Wash face shield with warm soapy water and mild soap, rinse thoroughly and pat dry
- Isopropyl alcohol can be used to clean shields and are effective disinfectants
 - **Warning** - alcohol is flammable, do not use until dry
- **Do not use** cleaners that contain ammonia and bleach as these chemicals can damage polycarbonate shields and/or remove anti-fog or anti-glare finishes

NOTE: Efforts to disinfect arc rated face shields between shared users while in the field by using disinfectant sprays should be avoided. Spray disinfectants may contain aerosols and other additives that are flammable. The CDC reports that proper washing with soap, or detergent and warm water is very effective in removing the COVID-19 virus.

Rubber Glove Cleaning Instructions

- Enespro encourages care practices in accordance with ASTM F496; Standard Specification for in-Service Care of Gloves and Sleeves
 - Use mild soap, or detergent and water
 - Diluted, mild household type chloride bleaches may be used for disinfectant purposes
 - Afterwards, thoroughly rinse to remove disinfectants, soap or detergent, then dry completely
 - Soaps, detergents, and bleaches shall not be used at strengths that would attack or harm the rubber surface
 - **Do not use** spray disinfectants
- Visually inspect rubber insulated gloves prior to each use in accordance with ASTM F 1236-16; Standard Guide for the Visual Inspection of Electrical Protective Rubber Products

NOTE: Efforts to disinfect gloves between shared users while in the field by using disinfectant sprays should be avoided. Spray disinfectants may contain aerosols and other additives that are flammable. The CDC reports that proper washing with soap, or detergent and warm water is very effective in removing the COVID-19 virus.