

Decontamination of Instrumentation and associated sub-assemblies

May 2022

PURPOSE

This procedure is to be used for materials and instrumentation destined for return to recycling purposes. The health risks of handling and working with instruments and accessories received from the field are largely unknown. This dictates prudent actions be taken to insure returning equipment present no health hazard to those who come in contact with these products throughout the in-house processing cycle.

Please be aware that contaminated EEE (Electric and Electronical Equipment) as described under Article 2(4)(g) is excluded from scope of the new WEEE Directive. But also risks from handling WEEE used with hazardous chemical substances has to be avoided. A complete decontamination must be performed on all equipment suspected of being contaminated. Consumables such as packs/filters or tubing returned with the equipment are also affected by the decontamination procedure.

The user is obliged to certify that the equipment as “clean”, or that the required decontamination process has been completed. The certification form should be signed off and attached to the outside of the box in a “shipping docs” bag. In the event questions arise regarding the applicability of the decontamination and certification process for returned parts and accessories, clarification by your local representative will be provided.

DECONTAMINATION OF EQUIPMENTS

This procedure is to be used for equipment destined for recycling purposes.

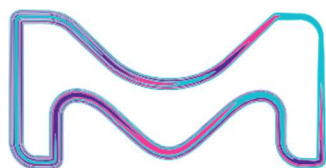
Potentially contaminated equipment cannot be approved for return from the field until it is certified as “clean”. A complete decontamination must be performed on all equipment suspected of being contaminated. The user ensures that the required decontamination process has been completed. In the event questions arise regarding the applicability of the decontamination for returned parts and accessories, clarification by your local representative will be provided.

DECONTAMINATION CRITERIA

A determination must be made regarding the materials currently and previously used or stored in the equipment being returned. A visible examination must also be made to reveal any check for evidence of spills (such as damage to the inner surfaces of the equipment).

Those wishing to return instrumentation and associated materials are advised that all returned goods must be “clean” and free from contamination.

The following minimum criteria are provided as guidance for the proper decontamination of instrumentation, and associated accessories or consumables.

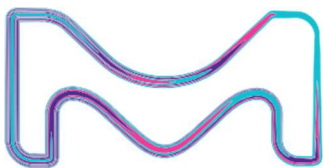


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DECONTAMINATION PROCEDURE

1. The instrument or item to be returned must be cleaned of all visible residue and encrusted material.
2. Where there is the potential for hazardous non-visible chemical contamination, it may be necessary to verify that no contamination is present. If contamination is suspected, the customer must initiate a material appropriate decontamination process.
3. For items used in conjunction or in contact with radioactive materials, insure that no radioactivity may be detected with survey equipment or incidental swipe tests.
4. Where infectious/bio-hazardous materials were used or suspected, disinfect all surfaces with material specific effective disinfectants.
5. When hazards have been successfully removed by decontamination, remove all hazard warning labels or signs.
6. Regarding possibly contaminated equipment, the customer/user must verify the proper decontamination process was completed.



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