

## Stainless Steel F.A.Q.s — Care & Maintenance for Maximum Service Life of Your Mopping Equipment and Janitorial Carts

### ***Congratulations!***

***You have just purchased the finest mopping equipment available on the market today!***

There are a number of things that can be done to get the most out of your mop wringers and buckets, and keep them in top-notch working order and thereby increase service life. Here are the most important:

1. Rinse all mop wringers and buckets with clean water after use. This eliminates the chance of metal parts becoming corroded by continuous contact with cleaning solution. This possibility is always present even if the wringer or bucket is electroplated, galvanized, epoxy coated or plastic.
  2. Wringers and buckets should always be thoroughly dried after rinse for the same reason.
  3. Removal of any torn mop strings and pieces of mop head that may be caught in the wringer or bucket casters prevents this material from becoming hardened. If hardening is permitted, cleaning the wringer or bucket casters will be extremely difficult later.
- It is important that you use any cleaning solution, detergent or disinfectant according to instructions on the manufacturer's label. Using a solution in a manner inconsistent with the label instructions may attack the wringer or bucket finish.
  - We recommend that you **do not** mix zinc or epoxy with stainless steel - it may cause a galvanic reaction.

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### **METAL WRINGERS**

1. Placing a small amount of grease on gears of downward pressure wringers, and a drop of oil where the shaft of the wringer enters the bushing at either side occasionally will contribute to ease of operation. In addition, it helps combat rust and corrosion, however it is not true to say that "if a little is good a lot is better." One drop of oil for each moving part is usually sufficient. More oil just causes the oil to leak into the mop bucket fouling the cleaning solution.
2. Twisting the mop in the wringer in an effort to get the mop drier is one of the major causes of excessive wear, both to the wringer and to the mops. If the mop head is twisted, the wringer cannot extract water from it uniformly and often results in having to wring the mop several times. Modern wringers are engineered to extract maximum solution from a mop with one operation of the handle.
3. Never add to the length of the wringer handle since even this added leverage will not produce a bone-dry mop. The best way to get a mop dry is to hold the handle down in "squeeze" position for 2 to 3 seconds.
4. Using a mop which is of the correct weight for the wringer is also necessary for efficient operation. If the mop is too small, the wringer will be unable to remove sufficient water, leaving the mop still wet. On the other hand, if the mop is too large, the wringer may be overwhelmed and unable to extract sufficient solution for maximum efficiency.

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## BUCKETS & CASTERS

1. Do not leave a wet mop in a bucket. Rinse out bucket and wipe dry after each use.
2. Put a drop of oil on the swivel bearing and axle of the casters on your mop bucket at least quarterly. This is good insurance against corrosion and adds to ease of operation.

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## STAINLESS STEEL BUCKETS

Your stainless steel round buckets have been manufactured from the finest quality 304 stainless steel, drawn uniformly and completely seamless for ease of cleaning and sanitizing, and when given common sense care will last a lifetime (see warranty).

To assure a lifetime of trouble-free use for all stainless steel round and half-round buckets, simply empty the contents daily, rinse with clean water, and invert or wipe out any residual liquid before storing. Stainless steel has an invisible film on the surface which protects it from corrosion. When nicked or scratched or otherwise penetrated, a fresh film forms over the scar to preserve this corrosion resistance. However, it is important that highly concentrated, corrosive liquids, such as quaternaries, phenolics, or chloride compounds not be allowed to stand in the bucket indefinitely, or small amounts to collect in the bottom and by evaporation become more concentrated. These chemicals will attack this film.

Since the protective nature of stainless steel is throughout, it is not too late to correct the situation. At the first sign of corrosion or discoloration a good oil based stainless steel cleaner/polish may be adequate. If more significant rust is present an automotive rubbing compound or scotch brite pad can be used. (Never use a more abrasive material than necessary.) If either of the more aggressive cleaning procedures is used be sure to thoroughly rinse and then coat with a good quality stainless steel polish. Correct any inadequate procedures and the type 304 material will again create a new protective film.

### RINSE THE BUCKET IN CLEAN WATER AFTER EACH USE

*When using sodium hypochlorite pitting, discoloration and corrosion of stainless steel surfaces can occur. To minimize this type of damage, the following cleaning procedure should be used:*

1. *Rinse three times thoroughly with warm water.*
2. *Wash with a neutral pH detergent (detergent should not contain any oxidizers or other materials that might react with any residual bleach solution).*
3. *Rinse bucket again thoroughly with warm water*
4. *Wipe dry and store in an inverted position*

Casters - If your bucket is equipped with casters, a drop of oil placed in the swivel and axle occasionally will add years to their life. If you decide to autoclave the bucket, remove the casters and bumper (if so equipped). Simply removing the nuts securing the stem of the casters will allow you to remove the entire spider, bumper, and casters.

Note: Cleanroom products with casters are shipped from Geerpres without grease or oil to prevent oils from coming out in autoclaves.

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## **GEERPRES® CARTS**

Your cart should continue to offer you service for years. It requires very little in the way of preventive maintenance, but will certainly retain its new appearance for a longer period of time if it is thoroughly wiped down at the end of each shift. Use a good quality, water based, stainless steel cleaner on the stainless cart. If your cart is epoxy coated, use mild detergent with water. Wipe up any and all spills when they occur. If the cart has tray liners, take the plastic tray liner(s) out and thoroughly clean the liner and shelf making sure both are dry before replacing the liner.

A drop of lubricating oil on each caster wheel axle about once a month will keep your carts moving freely and prevent premature wear.

Every 6 months check to see all screws, bolts, and nuts are tight.