

# Stainless Steel Equipment Care and Cleaning

## PROPER CARE OF STAINLESS STEEL WILL PREVENT RUSTING

There is an invisible passive film on all stainless steel that acts as a shield against corrosion. As long as this film is properly cared for, the metal is protected from corrosion. The following tips will assist you in this cleaning process.

- 1.) Use non-abrasive tools -
  - A) Soft cloths
  - B) Plastic scouring pads
  - C) Stainless steel pads (scrubbing motion must be in the direction of the polishing marks)
  - D) **Do not use** - Steel pads, Wire brush, or Scrapers
- 2.) Clean or scrub in the same direction of the visible polishing lines

- 3.) Use alkaline, alkaline chlorinated, or non-chloride containing cleaners. Avoid cleaners containing quaternary salts. Consult your cleaner supplier for these types of products.  
Use recommended strength for cleaning
- 4.) Use soft water - this reduces deposits  
Consult your treatment specialist for the proper filters to eliminate corrosive elements
- 5.) Clean frequently to avoid build-up of hard, stubborn stains
- 6.) Rinse thoroughly - wipe dry immediately - allow to air dry  
**Do not let water or cleaner set on stainless steel - wipe off immediately**
- 7.) **Never use** Hydrochloric acid (muriatic acid) on stainless steel

## RECOMMENDED CLEANERS

JOB	CLEANING AGENT	COMMENTS
Routine cleaning/disinfectants	Soap, Ammonia, Detergent, Medallion, Foamquat™	Use cloth or sponge
Fingerprints, smears	Arcal 20, Lac-O-Nu, Ecoshine	Provides barrier film
Stubborn stains/discolorations	Cameo, Talc, Zud, First Impression	Rub in direction of polish lines
Grease, fatty acids, blood	Easy-off, De-grease it, Oven aid	
Grease and oil	Any good commercial detergent	Use cloth or sponge
Restoration/Passivation	Bonefir, Super Sheen	

### CAUTION: DO NOT USE CHLORINE BASED PRODUCTS!

Please call VSSI, Inc. with any questions you may have.

For a more complete discussion of stainless steel corrosion, care, and cleaning see the following web-sites:  
*EMI Industries Blog – Stainless Steel Equipment Care and Cleaning, Aug. 18, 2008 – [www.emiindustries.com](http://www.emiindustries.com)*  
*SR Smith – Maintenance and Care – [www.srsmith.com](http://www.srsmith.com)*  
*Corrosion, stainless steel – [www.mcnallyinstitute.com](http://www.mcnallyinstitute.com)*

