Product Cleaning Guidance
Portable Gas Detection Instruments

Brief Issue Date: March 27, 2020

For COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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. Based on this guidance, the following cleaners may be used for all portable gas detectors that have the ALTAIR® branding, including the 4XR, 5X, 5X PID, 4X, 4XM, 2X, and single gas varieties:

Product Cleaning Guidance

1. MSA Confidence Plus® 2, MSA part number 10009971. MSA’s Confidence Plus 2 cleaner is included on List N based on its EPA Reg. No., which begins with 47371-130.
2. Disinfectants on EPA’s List N that meet the following criteria:
   a. Active ingredient of only Hydrogen Peroxide OR only Quaternary Ammonium
   b. Do not contain alcohol at a concentration greater than 0.1% by weight
   c. Do not contain sodium hypochlorite (bleach) at a concentration greater than 7% as an active ingredient
3. If options 1 or 2 are not readily available in your market, you can use a 3% solution of Hydrogen Peroxide in water with 5 minutes of contact time on the surfaces.
4. If no other cleaning products are available that meet the above criteria, diluted household bleach may be used as a temporary measure until an option from the above list is available. CDC recommends preparing a bleach solution by mixing the following:
   5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water
   OR
   4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water
   Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.
The minimum recommended concentration is 2% bleach in water. To avoid damaging the detectors, do not exceed a concentration of 7% bleach in water.

Chemicals Not Compatible with Products

Please note that for ALTAIR portable gas detectors, it is crucial that you do not use cleaners with chemicals that might damage the sensor performance or detector housings. This includes any disinfecting agents that contain alcohol at a concentration of greater than 0.1% by weight, or sodium hypochlorite (bleach) at a concentration greater than 7%.

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:

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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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