

Regular Maintenance

General

A regular maintenance and check-up program of your drycleaning machine and related equipment can pinpoint and prevent many problems before they happen. Not only will such a program contribute to the longevity of your equipment but potential garment damage or service interruption due to breakdown can often be prevented.

This bulletin will give you a general suggested outline of the way a maintenance schedule might look. Many of the entries are obvious, but are included as part of a checklist. Due to the great variety of equipment and conditions encountered in the field, you will have to delete some items and add some more to fit your specific situation. Your machine manuals may even have checklists, but these need to be integrated into your program and posted for easy reference.

A. DAILY

1. Clean the drying lint filter - several times a day as needed.
2. Clean the solvent lint filter (remember, gloves should be used and the solvent-soaked lint disposed of as hazardous waste.)
3. Clean the button trap.
4. Clean the pump strainer.
5. Drain the air line water separator(s).
6. Cook down, drain and scrape out the still – may be extended to every other day or twice a week depending on the size of the still and the pounds cleaned.
7. Mark all gauges, thermostats, etc., at their proper settings or ranges with a red marker. During the day, whenever anyone involved in drycleaning is near the machine, just glance at the gauges and sight glasses.®
If one is out of range or off color, investigate the cause.
8. Cook down and cool down carbon adsorber.
9. Clean spotting board tip and refill bottles as needed.

B. WEEKLY

1. Vacuum air ducts and coils that can be reached through the lint filter door.
2. Drain and clean water separators — Refill with clean solvent and water. Make sure the water outlet line is open.
3. Refill air line oiler.
4. Clean drying sensor orifice and screen.
5. Remove lint from refrigeration coils (chiller, refrigerated condenser, etc.)
6. Replace light bulbs in sight glasses, still, etc., as needed.
7. Check Fabritec detergent injection and sizing injection.
8. Monitor drying time. Assuming the drying sensor is working, gradually increasing drying times indicate the need to remove and clean the coils.
9. Inspect cleaning machine thoroughly for leaks, loose bolts and fittings, leaking dampers or gaskets, worn belts, brittle hoses, etc.

C. MONTHLY

1. Check refrigerant levels in recovery units, heat pumps, etc.
2. Check water level in refrigerated water recirculating chillers.
3. De-lint machines. Pay particular attention to fan and pump motor cooling grids on top of motor housings.
4. Check cooling towers for algae or solids buildup — blow down or treat if necessary.
5. Check all lint filters or bags for holes or rips — repair or replace as necessary.
6. Lubricate equipment as required.
7. Disassemble and clean spotting board.

D. QUARTERLY, SEMI-ANNUALLY, YEARLY

1. Wear pro-tek badges or equivalent twice a year; summer and winter.
2. Inspect condensing coil, pan and solvent line to separator, quarterly. Remove and clean thoroughly as required.
3. Service cooling towers, spring and fall.
4. Inspect tanks for moisture, lint or other contamination, quarterly. Drain and clean if necessary. Clean all sight glasses.
5. Inspect still for buildup of an insulating layer on heating surface. Boil out as needed.
6. Cook down carbon adsorber for an extended period, quarterly. Cool completely and inspect bed for lint or break-down of granules.
7. Calculate solvent mileage, quarterly. If excessive, explore all possible causes and correct.

Hopefully this checklist will be of some help in developing your own regular maintenance program.

