Guide to Cleaning and Disinfection of Equipment Between Users and Shifts

IMPORTANT NOTE:
These recommendations are for these times of heightened awareness and for facilities where there are NO reported or suspected cases of COVID 19. Facilities with suspected or confirmed COVID 19 cases should follow the CDC recommendations for Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities.

Keeping your work area clean has always been an important part of reducing the transition of germs. Now, developing and being vigilant with good equipment cleaning practices is crucial as employers and workers wrestle with reducing the spread of Covid19 and keeping essential business and tasks going.

When a vehicle or workspace is shared between workers during or across different shifts, care should be taken to clean it before the next worker or shift will use it.

1) **Clean the surfaces** to be disinfected to remove organic and inorganic material.
   a. Use soap and water or another means to remove visible material from the contact surfaces of the space as it can interfere with the effectiveness of disinfectants.

2) **Identify the hi-touch surfaces** that will be disinfected such as but not limited to:
   i. Door handles (inside and out)
   ii. Window controls or levers
   iii. Steering wheels or stick controls
   iv. Environmental controls (heating/cooling)
   v. Seatbelt latches/buckles
   vi. Brake handles
   vii. Radio dials/buttons
   viii. Attachment controls
   ix. Mirrors
   x. Actuators
   xi. Movable guards

3) **Choose a disinfectant** that the CDC lists for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID19)
   a. Contact your cleaning product supplier to provide you with a product that will meet your needs for:
      i. the type of surface (hard or soft), and
      ii. the length of time the product can be in contact with the equipment before it’s used or wiped off.
   b. If purchasing on your own, check if the product’s EPA registration number is included on this list.
      i. If it is, you have a match and the product can be used against SARS-CoV-2. You can find this number on the product label – just look for the EPA Reg. No. - (from epa.gov-list N)
   c. **When there is a discrepancy between manufacturer's label and the CDC List N regarding contact time, refer back to CDC List N.**
   d. The CDC also suggests the following:
      i. Diluted household bleach solutions may also be used if:
          1. appropriate for the surface,
          2. and it is within its expiration date,
          3. and its mixed at the proper dilution -4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water
          4. and its left on the surface for at least 1 minute.
4) **Apply the disinfectant** according to the manufacturer’s recommendations.

   a. To kill the virus, the surface must stay wet for the entire time according to the [CDC List N](https://www.cdc.gov). Look for the “Contact Time in Minutes” column on the list.

   b. Electronic Equipment such as tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, etc. can be damaged by liquids or other chemicals.
      
      i. Consider putting a wipeable cover on electronics.
      
      ii. Follow manufacturer’s instruction for cleaning and disinfecting.

   c. Chemical application should be performed using the proper personal protective equipment (PPE). The correct donning and doffing of PPE should be followed.

   d. Consider these steps to reduce your risk when using disinfectants:
      
      i. To avoid chemical exposure when using disinfectants, follow the label's "precautionary statements".
      
      ii. Keep other people away during the application until the product is dry and there is no odor.
      
      iii. Open windows and use fans to ventilate.
      
      iv. Wash your hands after using any disinfectant, including surface wipes.

Regardless of the type of vehicles or equipment that is shared between shifts or being used to shuttle or carpool, following these cleaning and disinfection practices can help reduce contact with potentially contaminated surfaces in vehicles between operators.

**For more information please use the following links:**

- [CDC – Cleaning and Disinfecting your facility](https://www.cdc.gov)
- [European CDC – Interim Guidance for Environmental Cleaning in Application in Non-Healthcare Facilities](https://www.cdc.gov)
- [EPA - List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](https://www.cdc.gov)