



## SANITIZING AND DECONTAMINATING CHART ALUMINUM AND MVE DEWARS

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MVE aluminum dewars are constructed with an aluminum inner, which utilizes a fiberglass neck support. The stainless units are constructed with an inner entirely fabricated from stainless steel sheets. Any cleaning solution that does not react with aluminum or stainless can be used in the sanitation process of these dewars. In most cases, any household detergent or mild soap solution is suitable. The U.S. Custom Service uses a solution called EXPOR for incoming shipments from abroad. This is mixed 9 parts water mixed with sodium chloride & lactic acid. As mentioned above, however, any household cleaning solution can be used. These include bleach, detergents, and mild soaps. Other cleaners and disinfectants that can be safely used include hydrogen peroxide, chlorine/water and denatured alcohol. NOTE: **DO NOT USE ANY PETROLEUM BASED CLEANING SOLUTION**. It is important that the inner vessel is thoroughly rinsed with water and all cleaner residues have been removed. Spraying the solution into the inner vessel is preferred, although agitation of the solution inside the inner will suffice. Vapor shippers and Doble units will require filling the inner to its full capacity with cleaning mixture and then rinsing. Allow the unit to dry thoroughly before putting into service. With vapor shippers, we suggest setting dewar inverted to drain and dry. The process is not intended for use in older vapor shipper models manufactured prior to 1994.

The generally accepted practice of using 10% chlorine bleach with 90% water solution still holds as the best method for decontamination. However, with some of the bovine and swine virus strains showing up today, it is the conclusion of the agricultural professors at the University of Minnesota and Texas A & M that an increased mixture of chlorine bleach to 30% and 70% water will kill all known viruses except BSE. This is still unknown to them and are not willing to offer a solution.

To perform this sanitizing procedure, cover all inner surfaces with the solution, let stand for 30 minutes and remove. Rinse the decontaminated surfaces with clean water and remove rinse water. Allow dewar to dry before putting into service. For vapor shippers and Doble units, this means to place dewar on end (inverted) and allow drying. Note: Vapor dewars can be used immediately after rinsing but may take longer to recharge to 100% capacity

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