

FAQs for

ProE-Vac™

Liquid Evacuation System Cleaner



What is ProE-Vac?

It is a powerful, concentrated liquid cleaner for the removal of saliva, blood, tissue, fluoride gel, prophy paste, impression material, and other wastes from the dental unit evacuation system.

Where is ProE-Vac used?

It is used to flush and clean the entire dental evacuation system (cuspidor, saliva ejector, high-volume evacuator and tubing). It can also be used to eliminate odors in the plaster trap.

How should ProE-Vac be used?

Dilute one ounce of ProE-Vac per quart of water or add four ounces of ProE-Vac to one gallon of water in the Tidy Tote™ dispenser. Aspirate one to two cups of diluted solution into each suction line, rinse cup or cuspidor. Then keep suction on to allow a few seconds of air into each line. Aspirate a final rinse of one to two cups water per line.

How often should ProE-Vac be used?

Daily cleaning will prolong the life of the dental evacuation system and pump by breaking down and loosening debris in evacuation lines. Build up of debris in the lines and the suction impellers of the evacuation system will reduce suction to the dental unit and cause the main motor to work harder with eventual burn-out. Regular use of ProE-Vac evacuation cleaner will result in substantial savings on costly motor repairs.

Why is biofilm such a problem for evacuation systems?

The dynamics of water flow through tubing combined with sticky prophy paste, saliva, etc. provides perfect conditions for biofilm to form and produce foul odors.

We are using an enzymatic cleaner in our evacuation system. Will ProE-Vac clean better than the enzymes?

Yes. ProE-Vac is an acid based cleaner which is more effective at the penetration and breakup of thick, sticky biofilm clinging to tubing. The ProE-Vac formula attacks both organic (blood and saliva) soils and inorganic materials such as impression pastes and cements. Enzymatic cleaners target organic (blood) soils but may have little cleaning effect on inorganic dental materials. The acids in ProE-Vac provide effective cleaning yet are mild enough to be harmless to the evacuation system and its components.

We had to have the pipes leading to the main pump cleaned of corrosion. We were using another product. How can we prevent this from happening again?

Inadequate cleaning or the use of bleach compounds may contribute to corrosion in evacuation systems. The ProE-Vac formula inhibits corrosion. Daily treatment with ProE-Vac will keep the entire system free of corrosion and adherent debris.

Should we clean/dispose of the traps before or after treatment with ProE-Vac?

Either way is appropriate. However, cleaning the system with ProE-Vac first will reduce odors (particularly in the main motor trap) and reduce the amount of particulate contained in the traps.

I am using a different evacuation cleaner and I see foam in the traps and the impeller when I clean them. Is this OK?

No, if you find foam in the traps the motor will sense the foam as liquid when it is really air. The motor will continue to try to pump it out, will lose suction power and cavitate, causing the motor to wear out much quicker than it should. Use of a nonfoaming evacuation cleaner such as ProE-Vac will protect the main motor because it will not foam in the system. Most major dental unit manufacturers now recommend nonfoaming evacuation cleaners.



How does the Tidy Tote dispenser function?

Evacuation line cleaning can be a messy annoying chore. The Tidy Tote makes it easy to prepare diluted solution, then transport to each dental unit. Prepare diluted solution (4 oz. ProE-Vac to one gallon of water) in Tidy Tote and screw on cap securely. Use the small end of the fitting in the cap for saliva ejector suction lines and the larger diameter fitting for high volume lines. Attach one line at a time to suction about one to two cups solution. Include all lines, even those infrequently used.

What is the effect of evacuation line cleaners on release of mercury from waste amalgam?

Recent studies sponsored by the American Dental Assoc. indicate that some brands of evacuation cleaners, especially those with chlorine or bleach, will cause high amounts of mercury to be released from waste amalgam in lines. ProE-Vac was included in the study and found to be a safe, low-releasing product. (Study summary available upon request.)

We recently installed a special amalgam separator filter cartridge for our evacuation lines. Can we continue to use ProE-Vac with this product?

Neutral pH enzyme based line cleaners are recommended by most amalgam separator manufacturers. ProEZ AW Quad™ four enzyme non-foaming detergent is neutral pH and the best alternative to ProE-Vac for amalgam separator systems or any application when neutral pH cleaners are recommended.

I mixed ProE-Vac at the correct dilution (one ounce in one quart tap water) and the solution turned clear! What happened?

Tap water is usually treated with chlorine in various forms by your community water treatment facility. The allowed amount can vary. If chlorine levels are unusually high in your tap water, it may cause your ProE-Vac solution to become clear upon dilution. Even if the solution is clear it is still effective and may be used as usual to clean evacuation lines. Do not add any other chemicals or coloring agents to diluted ProE-Vac.