

# Haemo-Sol Bath Life & Water Quality Specifications

## HAEMO-SOL IN SOLUTION & BATH SHELF-LIFE

Haemo-Sol baths that are mixed and allowed to sit without being used will retain their efficacy and integrity for at least a year. The shelf-life of a bath that is in constant use will vary greatly depending on soil load and type of contaminant.

Bath life can be enhanced by filtering soils, waxes, oils, or other contaminants from the water; or by adding one half as much detergent after partially depleting the cleaning life of the bath.

After constant use, the bath will ultimately reach a point of contaminate saturation where a build-up of sludge or particulate matter will appear, resulting in a highly turbid solution. At this point, the bath should be dumped and a new batch of cleaner made. The time to dump the bath and start over is generally determined by visual examination of the items being cleaned, or defined in terms of the number of parts cleaned or time period of bath use.

In general, a simple foam test can be used to determine if the cleaning solution is exhausted. If there is still sufficient surfactancy in the bath, then agitation of the solution will produce foam. Little to no foam in Haemo-Sol Regular and Haemo-Sol E.A. baths indicates that the surfactants have been depleted by soil load, thus resulting in increased surface tension. The decreased surfactancy and increased surface tension may cause re-depositing of soil on the surface of the items being cleaned.

For optimal cleaning and to avoid potential cross contamination, it is best to mix a fresh batch of solution for each cleaning application.

## WATER QUALITY SPECIFICATIONS

In aqueous cleaning, the quality of the dissolution water and the quality of the rinse water are both critical to ensuring that items are properly cleaned. This is especially true for items being washed in soaking baths or ultrasonic cleaners. Items cleaned using either of these techniques must be thoroughly rinsed after removal from the bath or ultrasonic.

For most applications, it is possible to use tap water for both dissolving Haemo-Sol and for rinsing items being cleaned in a Haemo-Sol bath. Prior to using tap water, however, users should employ a water quality test kit to ensure that the water demonstrates acceptable ranges for chlorine, copper, magnesium, nitrates, iron, calcium, and other elements commonly found in tap water.

In situations where the highest level of accuracy and cleaning is necessary, it is recommended that users employ deionized or distilled water. The use of deionized or distilled water reduces the likelihood of calcium, magnesium, or other water spotting salts usually found in tap water from being deposited on items being cleaned. For medical device rinsing, distilled or reverse osmosis grade water is typically used because it contains fewer organic contaminants.

It is recommended that laboratories, hospitals, or other facilities using Haemo-Sol check with the facility operations staff to ensure that proper maintenance has been completed on water systems. This includes changing water filters and inspection of water pipes and conduits. Improperly maintained water systems can cause debris and other contaminants to be flushed through the system and interfere with the efficacy of Haemo-Sol and/or other detergents.