MINNESOTA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Reference List

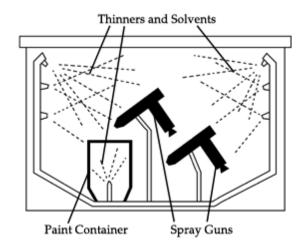
Automatic paint gun washers are a time- and cost-effective alternative to cleaning paint guns manually.

Spray guns and equipment cleaning system suppliers

Cleaning paint guns manually is time consuming and labor intensive, exposes workers to harmful solvents and paints, and can generate significant quantities of solvent waste. An alternative to traditional cleaning methods is an automatic cleaning system. Automatic gun washers can reduce the amount of solvent used and the amount of paint solvent waste generated by up to 80%, as compared to manual paint gun cleaning. Automatic gun washers are sealed units, reducing worker exposure to hazardous materials. Additionally, sealed units reduce hazardous air pollutant (HAP) emissions and volatile organic compound air emissions.

Using an automatic cleaning system cuts the time required for paint gun cleaning by 90%, and can save you money on solvent purchases, paint rags, and solvent disposal. The washers can be used to clean conventional air spray, high volume/low pressure, electrostatic, airless, and air-assisted guns.

Automatic cleaning systems are similar to conventional home dishwashing machines, except that the thinners and solvents in the automatic washers are not heated in the process. The piece of equipment to be cleaned is attached to a nozzle within the washer and the machine is sealed. Most washers can wash two to three paint guns at a time. The exterior of the equipment is cleaned with atomized paint thinner sprayed using an action similar to a dishwasher spraying water. Circulating solvent through the nozzle attachment cleans the interior of the paint gun. The average size of a oneor two-gun automatic cleaning system is 1.5 x 2 x 1.2 feet.



Used solvent is collected in a reservoir where impurities, such as paint solids, are filtered out. The filtered solvent is then reused. Regular removal of the paint solids increases the life of the solvent, reducing the amount of new solvent used and waste generated. The typical solvent capacity of a spray gun washer is three gallons. Changing the washer solution every three to eight weeks may be necessary. However, the solution may last longer depending on use.

MnTAP maintains the following list of spray gun and equipment cleaning system suppliers as a service to Minnesota companies. This is not a complete list of available suppliers and does not represent an endorsement by MnTAP. MnTAP, by providing this list, does not guarantee that the services or products provided by these suppliers do or do not comply with applicable environmental and safety laws in any specific application.

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Company	Distributors	
BECCA Kennesaw, GA 800.655.5649 <www.beccainc.com></www.beccainc.com>	Spray Equipment Rochester, MN 507.421.2021 <www.sprayequipment.com></www.sprayequipment.com>	
Como Lube and Supplies Hugo, MN 651.646.0830 or 800.254.2705 <www.comolube.com></www.comolube.com>	Direct from the company.	
Fountain Industries Albert Lea, MN 507.373.2351 or 800.328.3594 <www.fountainindustries.com></www.fountainindustries.com>	Contact company for closest distributor.	
Graco Incorporated Minneapolis, MN 612.623.6921 or 800.367.4023 <www.graco.com></www.graco.com>	Midway Industrial Supply St. Paul, MN 763.780.3000 or 800.279.1401 <www.midwayis.com></www.midwayis.com>	CJ Spray Inver Grove Heights, MN 888.257.7729 <www.cjspray.com></www.cjspray.com>
Herkules Equipment Corporation Walled Lake, MI 248.960.7100 or 800.444.4351 <www.herkules.us></www.herkules.us>	Collision Services Inc. Hudson, IA 800.367.6575 <www.collisionservices.com></www.collisionservices.com>	Keystone Automotive Minneapolis, MN 612.789.1919 or 800.328.1845 <www.lkqcorp.com></www.lkqcorp.com>
NexGen Enviro Systems Lindenhurst, NY 631.226.2930 or 800.842.1630 <www.nexgenenviro.com></www.nexgenenviro.com>	Direct from the company.	
Uni-ram Corporation Markham, Ontario 905.477.5911 <www.uniram.com></www.uniram.com>	KND Sales Maple Grove, MN 763.315.1057	Spray Equipment Rochester, MN 507.421.2021 <www.sprayequipment.com></www.sprayequipment.com>
WS Supplies Woodbine, IA 712.647.2252 or 800.728.0696	Direct from the company.	

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For More Information

MnTAP has a variety of technical assistance services available to help Minnesota businesses implement industry-tailored solutions that maximize resource efficiency, prevent pollution, increase energy efficiency, and reduce costs. Our information resources are available online at <mntap.umn.edu>. Please call MnTAP at 612.624.1300 or 800.247.0015 for personal assistance.