

One of the major causes for lost productivity on the job site is equipment performance issues, so keeping your spray pump in top working order is essential. These issues can be seen in the form of the pump not creating or holding pressure, pump cavitation and or a clogged pump, hoses, gun and spray tips. One of the leading causes of this issue is not properly flushing and storing your spray equipment.

Bautex AMB 20 air and moisture barrier products are water soluble (water-based or WB). Cleaning procedures for Bautex AMB 20 may be similar to other water soluble coating products, but always refer to Bautex material technical data sheet or installation and user documentation for proper cleaning instructions.

Cleaning Your Equipment

After every job, it is important to flush the machine as thoroughly as possible. The inlet suction hose, pump, spray hoses, and gun should all be flushing. Although there will be some residual coating left in the machine, getting the majority will help prevent contamination.

Best practice is to run water through the machine until the water runs clean without any sign of air barrier material. In our experience you can never spend too much time flushing the system.

Storing Your Equipment

Short term storage

Bautex AMB 20 air barriers can remain in your spray equipment for up to two weeks. Best practice would be to keep the material in the sprayer with the inlet hose submerged in the product and the gun submerged in a bucket of water. This will prevent air from penetrating the system causing the product to cure.

Make sure that the pump is not under pressure. Failure to relieve pressure in the system prior to storage can cause injury and or costly cleanup of air barrier material.

After two weeks of no use, moisture will begin to penetrate the hose. This will begin the curing process. At that time you should recirculate the material through the spray system and back into the drum or pail.

Long Term Storage

If you are going to be storing your spray equipment for months at a time, it is recommended that you do a complete flush of the system. Clean your machine completely by flushing out the system as much as possible. Once it is cleaned sufficiently you will want to store the machine.

A few things to keep in mind:

1. **Never store the pump dry.** This will cause rust to form inside the pump causing damage and premature pump failure.
2. **Never store the pump with water.** Water can freeze and is also corrosive causing the pump to rust
3. **Never store with a hot solvent.** Solvents like Xylene, Naptha, MEK, Lacquer Thinner, Alcohol and Toulene can be used to clean the pump however should never be used for long term storage. The displacement pump contains leather packings which over long exposure to "hot solvents" can cause degradation to the leather packings and reduce the life of the pump.
4. **Follow pump manufacturer's recommendations.** For long-term storage, use Graco Pump Armor, Green antifreeze, or similar maintenance products as recommended by the manufacturer of your spray pump equipment.