

What are the hazards and how might they harm?



Hearing impairment from exposure to noise



Back and muscle strains from manual handling



Inhalation injury, burns, skin irritation from cleaning chemicals



Electrocution caused by contact with high voltage electricity



Tissue damage or skin irritation from exposure to cavitation



Burns/scalds from exposure to hot liquid



Slip injuries from spillages

What PPE should the individual wear?



Wear PPE as prescribed in the Task Card for the cleaning chemical you are using.

Wear hearing protection when equipment is switched on.

What other precautions should be taken?



Clean up any spillages immediately

Ultrasonic cleaning using freestanding equipment (such as Little Gem)

Safety Task Card STCCL 30

Safe System of Work

1. You must have received practical training in addition to this task card before being permitted to use ultrasonic cleaning equipment.
2. Appropriate PPE, including reinforced toe-capped safety shoes, goggles, safety shoes and protective clothing must be worn. In addition, hearing protection is required when equipment is switched on.
3. Check that an RCD is connected and visually inspect the condition of the RCD and the cable. Report any issues and do not use equipment.
4. Erect safety barriers to prevent unauthorised access.
5. Keep the area tidy to prevent obstructions.
6. Check the drain valve is tightly closed before filling the tank with cold water, using an appropriate method, such as a hose.
7. Do not overfill the tank; allow for displacement of water when items are placed in the tank.
8. Only use ultrasonic cleaning chemicals approved for use in the equipment and follow the manufacturer's instructions in relation to safe handling, PPE, operation temperature and dilution.
9. Items must always be placed in a basket or tray and not directly on the bottom of the tank.
10. Follow good manual handling practices when putting items in and taking them out of equipment.
11. Never reach into an operating ultrasonic cleaner.
12. Keep the area as dry as possible and allow drips from cleaned items to fall back into the equipment bath before removing them.
13. Turn equipment off before draining it.
14. Clean up any spillages immediately and display wet floor warning signage as appropriate.

If you have any concerns, stop and speak with your line manager.

