

COVID-19: ENHANCED SURFACE CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

HYGIENE PRACTICES

During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, enhanced cleaning and disinfection should be used on vessels to reduce the risk of disease transmission.

Clean and disinfect all frequently touched surfaces. This includes but is not limited to:

- table tops
- control panels
- computer/keyboard/mouse
- door knobs
- light switches
- handles
- bathrooms
- steering wheels
- eating areas
- stair railings
- first aid equipment
- ladder railings
- hand held radios
- fixed radios

Cleaning and disinfection should be done as often as possible and at a minimum—as appropriate to your vessel operations—at the beginning of shift, before eating, between crew changes, and end of shift.

Avoid sharing tools and pens. Disinfect any shared items before sharing.

CLEANING: Removes visible soiling (e.g., dust, soil). Cleaning removes rather than kills viruses and bacteria. It is done with water, detergents, and steady friction from cleaning cloths.

DISINFECTING: Kills viruses and bacteria. A disinfectant is only applied to objects, never on the human body. All visibly soiled surfaces should be cleaned before disinfection. Most cleaning can be done using regular housekeeping best practices.

WHAT PRODUCTS SHOULD BE USED FOR DISINFECTION:

- Household or commercial disinfection products (follow manufacturer's instructions for disinfection), or a bleach solution (20 ml bleach per litre of water).
- Do not mix bleach with ammonia or any other cleaning product.

DURING CLEANING/DISINFECTION:

- If the surface is dirty remove visible dust and debris and clean using detergent or soap prior to disinfection.
- Follow disinfection product manufacturer's instructions for disinfection.
- Wear nitrile or neoprene gloves while working with disinfectant products.

AFTER CLEANING/DISINFECTION:

- Wash hands with soap and water using proper handwashing procedures immediately after gloves are removed.
- All disposable materials must be placed into a leak proof garbage bag and sealed for disposal.

HOUSEKEEPING:

- Regular housekeeping practices should be maintained in addition to enhanced surface cleaning/disinfection.
- Do not sweep dust, use a vacuum.