



Critical Cleaning of Cannabis and Related Botanical Residues

Featuring Alconox



WEBINAR
ALCONOX
Critical Cleaning Experts

The PQCW offers practical, hands-on and independent, training in cleaning.



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3/31/2021
PQCWebinar with Alconox

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Webinar Hosts

The PQCW Team




Barbara and Ed Kanegsberg - "The Cleaning Lady and the Rocket Scientist"

- BFK Solutions - Consultants in Critical Cleaning
- Authors and Editors of the two-volume CRC Handbook for Critical Cleaning
- Independent evaluations and recommendations
- Co-chairs of the Product Quality Cleaning Workshops
- barbara@bfksolutions.com and ed@bfksolutions.com



Darren Williams - "The Professor"

- Professor of Physical Chemistry at Sam Houston State University
- Leader of the Cleaning Research Group
- Co-chair of the Product Quality Cleaning Workshops
- Performs cleaning trials and formulates cleaning chemistries
- williams@shsu.edu



3/31/2021
PQCWebinar with Alconox

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Product Quality Cleaning Workshops

- ▶ May 10-20, 2021
- ▶ Live and interactive
- ▶ Remote = no travel
- ▶ Continuing education credit
- ▶ Register at pqcw.net
- ▶ Become a cleaning expert

Q: What was most valuable to you?
A: "The general overview of cleaning and the introduction to cleaning processes."
 - a 2018 attendee

"The vendor demos were great."
 - a 2018 attendee

"All the lab activities were interesting and made me think about things I need to consider in my own lab work."
 - a 2018 attendee

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About Michael Moussourakis

Critical Cleaning Experts

- ✔ Michael Moussourakis
- ✔ 20+ yrs, biopharm and medical device, process optimization, troubleshooting, training, critical cleaning, filtration
- ✔ Alconox Inc. (New York, USA)
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- ✔ Senior Director
Technical Marketing & Strategic Affairs
- ✔ Not the model in this picture ----->

Critical Cleaning Experts

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Critical Cleaning Experts

- ▼ Introduction
- ▼ What is the problem?
- ▼ Basic detergency
 - ▼ Critical Cleaning
 - ▼ Cleaning Chemistry
- ▼ Cleaning Methods
- ▼ Detergent Selection
- ▼ Cleaning Optimization
- ▼ Case Studies
 - ▼ Tough Cannabis
 - ▼ Turning Up the Heat
 - ▼ Trimming Costs & Plants
 - ▼ Automated & Effective
- ▼ Discussion and Questions

Today's Talk



The screenshot shows the Alconox website with a navigation bar at the top. The main content area features a blue header with 'Critical Cleaning Experts' and a search bar. Below this is a section titled 'Cannabis' with a background image of laboratory glassware containing green plant material. Underneath the 'Cannabis' section, there is a sub-section for 'INDUSTRIES' listing 'Laboratories' and 'Medical Device'. A short paragraph of text follows, discussing the critical cleaning of processing equipment for cannabis.

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Critical Cleaning Experts

Introduction

- ▼ Privately held 75+ yr. old company
- ▼ Third generation family ownership
- ▼ Detergent manufacturer serving
 - ▼ Laboratories
 - ▼ FDA: biopharma, medical device, healthcare, food, cannabis, cosmetic
 - ▼ Precision manufacturing: solar, aerospace, electric
- ▼ Over half a century of global distribution
- ▼ Over 50 countries – and all 7 Continents
- ▼ Expert technical support – Our pride





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What is the problem?

- ▽ Plain and simple – cannabis, CBD and related botanical extracts:
 - ▽ Sticky and adherent
 - ▽ Not water soluble
 - ▽ Complex blend – terpenes, cannabinoids, pesticidal agents, phenolic compounds
 - ▽ The Plant of the Thousand and One Molecules¹
- ▽ Complete removal from....
 - ▽ Analytical glassware
 - ▽ Boiling flasks
 - ▽ Extraction vessels
 - ▽ Processing lines.....
- ▽ Avoid batch-to-batch and strain-to-strain contamination
- ▽ The essence of residue free cleaning



¹ [NIH 2016](#)

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Define Critical Cleaning

What is critical cleaning?

- ▽ Cleaning that impacts the value of the finished output from whatever is being cleaned
- ▽ Typically some observation, measurement or validation is done related to precision critical cleaning
- ▽ Critical cleaning in FDA or USDA regulated industries of components or substrates is the complete removal of undesirable contaminants to a desired preset level
- ▽ The preset level is normally the minimum level at which no adverse effects take place in a subsequent operation.


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Chemistry of Cleaning

- Organic solvents
 - e.g., ethanol, isopropyl alcohol, acetone
- Commodity chemicals (aqueous)
 - e.g., caustic, phosphoric acid
- Water
 - Only cleans things soluble in it
 - Excellent where water alone will work
- Detergent
 - Surfactants
 - Formulated aqueous cleaning
 - No fragrances; no dyes
 - Controlled impurities
 - Easier waste disposal



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Cleaning Methods

- Manual
- Soak
- Scrubbing
- Agitated Immersion
 - Ultrasonic
 - Bubbled
 - Pump under immersion



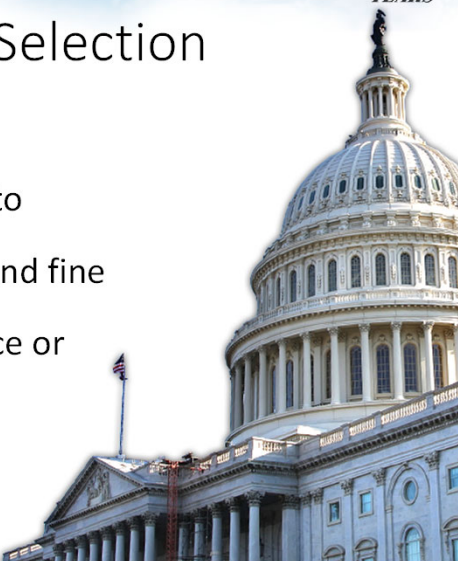

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Cleaning Methods

- Spray in air (high pressure)
 - Automatic machine (Dishwasher)
 - Automated sprayball clean-in-place (CIP)
- Chemistry mediated
- Some mechanical cleaning energy from the spray
- Low foaming

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Detergent Selection


Hard to Choose Which Cleaner

- ▽ Over 3000 Cleaner suppliers
- ▽ Quality levels ranging from appearance grade to semiconductor quality
- ▽ There are formulations for gross soil removal and fine trace soil removal
- ▽ Formulations change for economy, performance or marketing claims
- ▽ Green cleaners? Residues?

▽ **Seek those with Regulatory and Quality support**

- ▽ Documentation, support, SOPs, toxicity, etc.

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Detergent Selection

pH and Residues Removed

| Type Cleaner | pH | Typical Soils |
|---------------|---------|-------------------------|
| Mineral acid | 0-2 | heavy scales |
| Mild acid | 2-5.5 | salts, oxides, metallic |
| Neutral | 5.5-8.5 | light oil and particle |
| Mild alkaline | 8.5-11 | oils, particles, films |
| Alkaline | 11-12.5 | natural oil, fat, resin |
| Corrosive | 12.5+ | heavy grease/soils |



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Detergent Selection

Common Substrates in Cannabis Industry Type


- ✔ Most Plastics - ok w/ broad range of aqueous cleaners
- ✔ Stainless steel - ok with most alkaline detergents
- ✔ Glass (borosilicate, lab-grade) – fine across most detergents
- ✔ Art Glass – completely submerged, minimize contact time

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Cleaning Process Development and Optimization




Our whitepaper and guide suite:

- ✔ Analytical detection methods
- ✔ Residue acceptance criteria limits
- ✔ Cleaner residue sampling techniques
- ✔ Comprehensive documentation




CRITICAL CLEANING GUIDE



TECHBRIEF
Critical Cleaning of Cannabis and Other Botanical Residues


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Cleaning Process Development and Optimization

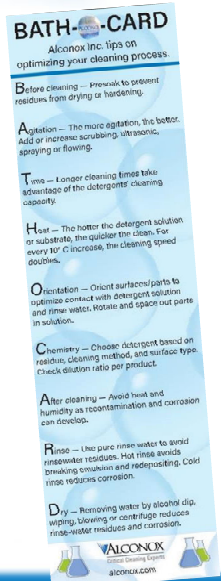


The 9 Variables of Effective Cleaning

- ✔ Success is more than Detergent
- ✔ The 9 variables: **BATH-O-CARD**

1. **Before-clean**
2. **Agitation**
3. **Time**
4. **Heat**
5. **Orientation**

6. **Chemistry/Conc.**
7. **After-clean**
8. **Rinsing**
9. **Drying**



BATH-O-CARD
Alconox Inc. tips on optimizing your cleaning process.

Before cleaning — Prevent to prevent residues from drying or hardening.

Agitation — The more agitation, the better. Add or increase scrubbing, ultrasonic, spraying or flowing.

Time — A longer cleaning time takes advantage of the detergent's cleaning capacity.

Heat — The hotter the detergent solution or substrate, the quicker the clean. For every 10°C increase, the cleaning speed doubles.

Orientation — Orient surfaces/parts to optimize contact with detergent solution and rinse water. Rotate and space out parts in solution.

Chemistry — Choose detergent based on residue, cleaning method, and surface type. Check dilution ratio per product.


After cleaning — Avoid heat and humidity as recontamination and corrosion can develop.

Rinse — Use pure rinse water to avoid introducing residues. Hot rinse avoids breaking emulsions and redepositing. Cold rinse reduces corrosion.


Dry — Removing water by alcohol dip, wiping, blowing or centrifuge reduces rinse-water residues and corrosion.

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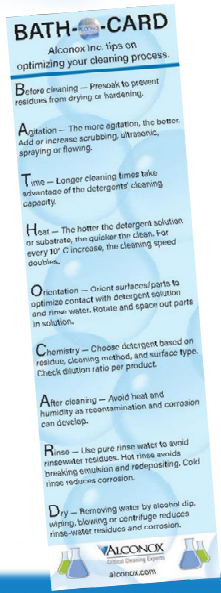


Cleaning Process Development and Optimization




The 9 Variables of Effective Cleaning

1. **Before cleaning** — Presoak to prevent residues from drying or hardening.
2. **Agitation** — The more agitation, the better. Add or increase scrubbing, ultrasonic, spraying or flowing.
3. **Time** — Longer cleaning times take advantage of the detergents' cleaning capacity.




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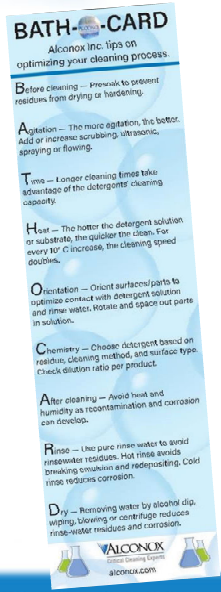


Cleaning Process Development and Optimization



The 9 Variables of Effective Cleaning

4. **Heat** — The hotter the detergent solution or substrate, the quicker the clean. For every 10° C increase, the cleaning speed doubles.
5. **Orientation** — Orient surfaces/parts to optimize contact with detergent solution and rinse water. Rotate and space out parts in solution.
6. **Chemistry** — Choose detergent based on residue, cleaning method, and surface type. Check dilution ratio per product.



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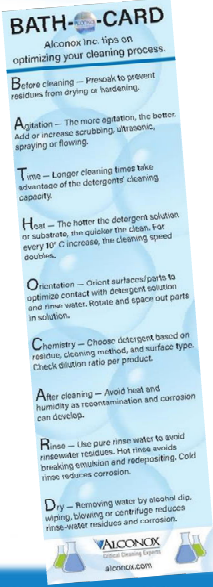
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Cleaning Process Development and Optimization

75 YEARS

The 9 Variables of Effective Cleaning

- 7. After cleaning** — Avoid heat and humidity as recontamination and corrosion can develop.
- 8. Rinse** — Use pure rinse water to avoid rinse water residues. Hot rinse avoids breaking emulsion and redepositing. Cold rinse reduces corrosion.
- 9. Dry** — Removing water by alcohol dip, wiping, blowing or centrifuge reduce



The infographic titled 'BATH-O-CARD' provides Alconox tips on optimizing the cleaning process. It lists several key variables: 'Before cleaning' (pre-rinse to prevent residue hardening), 'Agitation' (more agitation is better, including scrubbing, ultrasonic, or spraying), 'Time' (longer times take advantage of detergent capacity), 'Heat' (hotter solutions clean faster, doubling speed every 10°C), 'Orientation' (orient parts to optimize contact with spray and rinse), 'Chemistry' (choose detergent based on residue, method, and substrate), 'After cleaning' (avoid heat and humidity), 'Rinse' (use pure water to avoid residues), and 'Dry' (remove water by alcohol dip, wiping, blowing, or centrifuge).

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Cleaning Process Development and Optimization

75 YEARS

Applying BATH-O-CARD concepts:

- ✔ 10°C increase doubles cleaning speed
- ✔ Increase chemistry concentration for bath life / capacity
 - ✔ “Dump truck” gets bigger
- ✔ Optimize substrate orientation for cleaning and rinsing speed
- ✔ Increase agitation to increase cleaning speed
- ✔ Use the correct chemistry for faster cleaning

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Cleaning Process Development and Optimization

75
YEARS



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Case Studies

75
YEARS

Cannabis Case Study 1:
Tough Cannabis

- ▼ An advanced extraction process with robust, well grown plants (mitigated by expert consultant)
 - ▼ high purity, difficult to clean extract
- ▼ The old alcohol method wasn't cutting it



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Case Studies **75 YEARS**

Cannabis Case Study 1 (cont.):
Tough Cannabis

- ▼ The company/consultant called us → our “go-to” detergent for cannabis/recommendations which helped
 - ▼ Bathocard ‘smart’
 - ▼ Heat
 - ▼ Mechanical action → ultrasonic
 - ▼ Presoaking
- ▼ Not done yet....




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Case Studies **75 YEARS**

Cannabis Case Study 1 (cont.):
Tough Cannabis

- ▼ Ultra high purity
- ▼ Large globules → clogging drain
- ▼ Higher concentration (capacity)
 - ▼ more capacity, smaller micelles
- ▼ They then asked about irrigation lines....
- ▼ Enzymatic cleaning removes organic & pesticidal build up




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Case Studies **75**
YEARS

Cannabis Case Study 2: Turning Up the Heat

- ▼ A boiling flask coated with resin
- ▼ Scraping with a chisel
- ▼ Acetone and alcohol hazards
- ▼ BATHOCARD Smart = high %



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Case Studies **75**
YEARS

Cannabis Case Study 2 (cont.): Turning Up the Heat

- ▼ High % Detonox soak did not appear to be working
- ▼ Heated; still not fully effective
- ▼ Supplied constant heat and ultrasonic probe
 - ▼ Residue completely removed



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Case Studies **75 YEARS**

Cannabis Case Study 3: Trimming Costs and Plants

- ▼ Outside US cannabis processor
- ▼ Many cleaning applications
 - ▼ Floors
 - ▼ Tools, trimmers
 - ▼ Labware
 - ▼ Processing equipment
- ▼ IPA was effective, but....
 - ▼ **\$25 USD per gallon...?**



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Case Studies **75 YEARS**

Cannabis Case Study 3 (cont.): Trimming Costs and Plants

- ▼ MSRP of Detonox - ~\$87 USD / gal
- ▼ At 4% makes 25 gal = \$3.48 USD / gal
- ▼ Savings of over \$20 / gal
- ▼ **Purchasing IPA @ 32 gal / wk - \$800**
→ **~\$700 savings per week**
- ▼ **Bulk save more \$\$**



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Case Studies **75 YEARS**

**Cannabis Case Study 4:
Automated & Effective**

- ▼ Numerous small parts and glassware
 - ▼ Flask, vials
 - ▼ Trimmers
- ▼ Cleaning in large scale washer
- ▼ Recommend detergent required numerous cleanings



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Case Studies **75 YEARS**


**Cannabis Case Study 4 (cont.):
Automated & Effective**

- ▼ Review BATHOCARD concepts
 - ▼ Proper orientation
- ▼ Switch to proven Keylajet
 - ▼ High alkaline, high chelating
 - ▼ Low foaming
 - ▼ Effective even in cosmetic industry




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Cannabis Detergents



- ▼ Detonox® Ultimate Precision Cleaner
 - ▼ Manual cleaning detergent (foamer)
 - ▼ Moderate alkaline (pH 10.5)
 - ▼ Excellent for cannabis resins, cosmetics
 - ▼ Soaking, scrubbing, ultrasonic
- ▼ Keylajet® Low-Foaming High Alkaline Liquid
 - ▼ Low foaming detergent for automated or manual (use PPE)
 - ▼ High alkalinity (compatibility check; glass & stainless great)
 - ▼ For the toughest residues around – heavy sticky cannabis residue, viscous grease, water proof cosmetics, etc.
 - ▼ Especially where “elbow grease” can’t be applied




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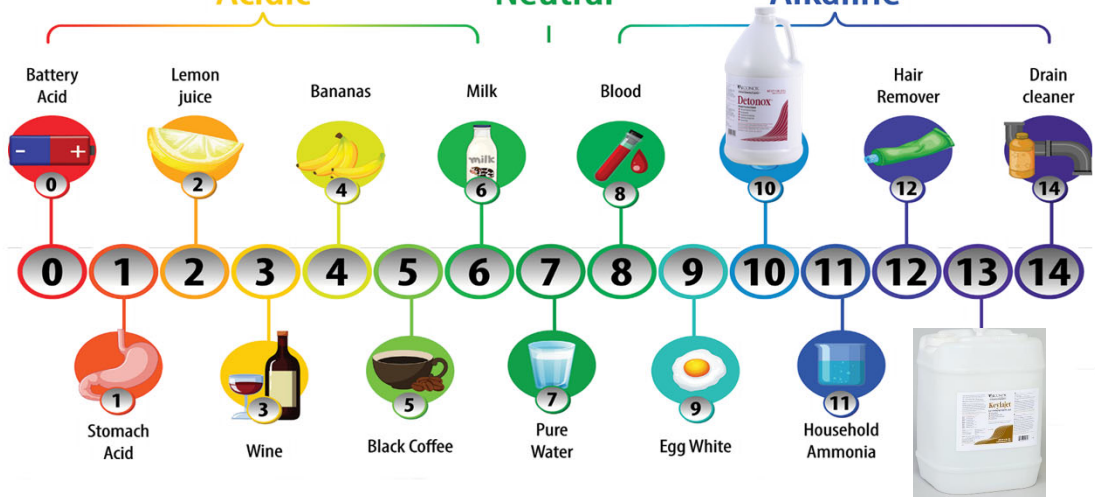


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Cannabis Detergents




Acidic Neutral Alkaline



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Thank you for attending




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Product Quality Cleaning Workshops

COME TO THE PQCW

- ▶ **When?** May 10-20, 2021
- ▶ **Where?** Online
- ▶ **More Info?** pqcw.net

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Q: What was most valuable to you?
A: *"The general overview of cleaning and the introduction to cleaning processes."*
— a 2018 attendee

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