

Cleaning Tips for NovaFlex Hose

In many hose applications it is “Best Practice” to clean the hose after each use. This prevents the:

1. Long term effects of potentially hazardous chemicals from damaging hose & couplings (even 316 stainless steel is effected over time by some common chemicals).
2. Contamination of product, should one hose be used to convey multiple products.
3. Prevent accidental spillage from chemical residue left in the inside of a hose.

This process is typically accomplished by flushing the interior of the hose with water or a cleaning solution. Cleaning procedures may differ by industry but should at least include the below **NovaFlex** recommendations.

Companies that conform to “Best Practice” programs realize that all safety programs and safety products are only as good as the human element responsible for using and maintaining the products used in the industrial arena. Hose can be dangerous!

It is important that companies take reasonable care to educate their employees to correctly use hoses in their respective work environments. To this end it is incumbent on the employer to institute the simple elements of a hose safety program to maintain safe hose operations by their work staffs.

All staff must wear personnel protective gear, i.e. eye protection & hard hat, gloves, protective clothing, etc.

Cleaning solutions should be able to dissolve or remove the residue material in the hose assembly and must be compatible with the hose tube & couplings.

All material flushed along with the cleaning solution must be processed in accordance with EPA requirements.

Extreme care must be taken when inserting cleaning devices in to the I.D. of a **NovaFlex** hose, such as brushes, steam wands etc. **Novaflex** does not recommend this because hose tubes can be damaged during this process.

1. Steam cleaning is not the preferred method for cleaning any hose due to the possibility of overheating the hose and coupling. If steam cleaning is necessary the procedure, as below, is recommended:
2. The hose should be placed in a straight line with one end higher in elevation to permit draining from the lower open end.
3. Never use super heated steam (steam temperature going into the hose should not exceed the max temperature of the hose to be cleaned -212°F is recommended).
4. Use a steam supply line not larger than ¾" ID into an adaptor to match the ID of the hose to be cleaned.
5. The hose to be cleaned must have the other end open to the atmosphere. Care must be taken to ensure that the velocity of steam in the hose to be cleaned is minimal (steam [jets] velocities will damage the hose tube (liner). The use of wand ends or nozzles in the hose ID is not authorized.
6. Steam cleaning duration of 15 minutes or less is recommended.
7. The hose should be flushed with clean water after cleaning.

To insure no cleaning chemical residue is left in the hose assembly, the hose can be hung vertical for a brief time to drain. It is common to hang hose to facilitate draining (hose with a convoluted tube surface may require this method).

Warm air (120°) F can be circulated through the hose for drying.

If hose is cleaned in a dip tank, do not exceed the maximum temperature marked on the hose. Cleaning time in the dip tank should not exceed 15 minutes.