AA FIRST information hub
knowledge is strength
Issue 10

Why do we need to sanitise?

Sanitising water coolers is important in ensuring that dispensed drinking water remains safe and clean for consumption. Regular sanitising prevents bacterial growth, maintains water quality and complies with health standards. Ensuring your cooler continues to comply with hygiene regulations is essential, especially for schools and other public institutions where it may even be a legal requirement.

How to sanitise a direct chill cooler

Due to the nature of their design, direct chill coolers are more susceptible to bacteria build up / water contamination. Mains water is drawn into the cooler, passes through a filter and stored in a water tank, ready to be dispensed. It is here where drinking water could be 're-contaminated' which is especially bad because there are no more filters between the tank water and a user's cup. Sanitising regularly will prevent such a scenario, with sanitising solution flushing through the water trail. But how do you sanitise a direct chill cooler?

1. Turn the mains water off, unscrew the top cap of the filter housing and remove the filter candle.
2. Fill the empty housing with sanitising solution and screw the housing cap back on.
3. Turn the mains water on and drain roughly 2ltrs of water through the taps. This allows the sanitising solution to flush into the tank, pipes and taps. Allow the sanitising solution to stand for 5 minutes.
4. Turn the mains water off again and place the filter candle back into the housing.
5. Turn the mains back on and flush copious amounts of water through the taps to remove any residue.

How to sanitise a tank fed cooler

Whilst the principle is the same, sanitising a conventional tank fed cooler uses a slightly different process. The water tank in tank fed coolers is accessible, which allows you to introduce sanitising solution directly into the tank. See the step-by-step guide below to learn how to correctly sanitise your tank fed cooler.

1. Turn the mains water off or remove the bottle. Remove both the top panel of the cooler and the cold water tank lid.
2. Loosen any biofilm deposits in the tank with a soft brush.
3. Pour 25cl of sanitising solution into the cold water tank and leave for 5 mins.
4. Drain some water through the taps and leave to stand for another 5 mins.
5. Spray the dispensing taps with CCSPRAY.
6. Re-connect the mains water to the cooler or replace the bottle and seal the cold tank lid.
7. Flush the cooler through with clear water until any sanitising residue has been flushed out.

Our products

We stock some useful products to help you keep on top of your sanitising visits. We recommend using sanitising solution in both liquid and spray form to keep your equipment clean and performing at its best. Alternatively, we offer some useful devices that can sanitise equipment for you automatically.

SIP Neo3
A small and discreet automatic sanitising device. SIP is installed inside a cooler and reduces sanitising visits by up to 50%. SIP can also reduce electricity consumption due to its sleep mode technology.