

Dry Cleaning - Industry

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Pollution Prevention Opportunities for the Dry Cleaning Industry

The keys are to ensure proper PERC (perchloroethylene) separation in the water separator and to warn against illegal disposal of still bottom residuals to the sewer. The preferable program is zero discharge to sewer, with the water and still bottom transported for off-site reclamation by a contract service.

Y/N	Opportunities	Comments
	I. Good Operating Practice, Mainly for Minimizing Air Missions	
	Keep lids on containers	To reduce evaporation and spill
	Label all raw material containers	To prevent unnecessary disposal
	Store in shake-proof containers	To prevent spill in earthquake
	Replace *sale regularly on dryer deodorizer and aeration valves	To reduce emission leaks
	Replace door gasket on button trap	To recover more solvent and reduce solvent content in still bottom
	Replace gaskets around cleaning machine door or tighten enclosure	To recover more solvent
	Repair holes in air and exhaust ducts	
	Secure hose connections and couplings	
	Clean lint screens to avoid clogging fans and condensers	To reduce solvent vapor losses

	Open button traps and lint gaskets only long enough to clean	
	Check baffle assembly in cleaning machine bi-weekly	
	Check air relief valves for proper enclosure	
	Adjust in-and-out condensing coil temperature store on heater to within 1. -r F. of each other	
	Redistilling still bottom with more water following boil-down	
	Use cartridge stripper	To remove solvent from cartridge
II. Process & Equipment Changes and Modernization		
	Convert to "dry-to-dry" machine Install solvent leak detectors	To monitor for vapor losses
	Use refrigeration/condensation system	To reduce vapor losses
	Use a reclaiming dryer	To reduce solvent losses
	Redesign separator with baffles and decant taps	To reduce PERC entrainment and to afford better decanting of water
	Allow only batch discharge of decant water from separator after visual inspection	To check for inadequate separation before sewer discharge
	Steam strip cleaning filter cartridge	To recover solvent
	Substitute low temperature laundering for dry cleaning for applicable fabric	To avoid unnecessary dry cleaning
III. Off-site Reclamation		
	Contract collection of cartridge filter, separator water and still bottom for off-site reclamation	To provide PERC reclamation and condensate treatment under proper expert supervision

Acknowledgement

Some materials were adopted from the Alaska Health Project, "Waste Reduction Tips for Dry Cleaners," 1987.

(WP, Cleaner, Manual)

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***Contact Pinellas County's Pollution Prevention and Resource Recovery (P2R2) Program
at 464-4761
for Waste Reduction Assistance***