

CLEANING & DISINFECTING GUIDELINES FOR BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS OR OTHER POTENTIALLY INFECTIOUS MATERIALS

This is a general guideline for using **Vital Oxide** brand product in the cleaning and disinfection of surfaces and materials contaminated with blood, bodily fluids or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM). Please consult your local health department, OSHA, EPA or the Centers For Disease Control (CDC) for a more detailed explanation on how to safely and effectively clean up blood or bodily fluids.

Bloodborne pathogens clean up can expose cleaning crews to dangerous, and sometimes lethal, infectious diseases such as Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV). It is extremely important that cleaning crews be properly trained and take every precaution to protect themselves from the hazards associated with the project.

✓ **RECOMMENDED PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE):**

- Eye protection, such as splash goggles, safety glasses with solid side shields, or full-face shields.
- Rubber utility gloves (preferred) or disposable gloves (single use).
- Rubber boots or boot covers.
- Protective outer clothing, such as impervious coveralls, bibs or aprons.
- Respiratory protection.

✓ **RECOMMENDED TOOLS & EQUIPMENT:**

- Biohazard Signs for posting at entrance doors.
- Portable Extractor or Upholstery Machine.
- Dust pans or small shovels for removing gross contamination (if any).
- Misting Spray Equipment designed for correct output volume.
- Scrapers or putty knives.
- Box knives or carpet knives for cutting out contaminated areas of porous materials.
- Steam vapor cleaning machine (for grout cleaning, if needed).

✓ **RECOMMENDED CLEANING SUPPLIES:**

- Heavy Duty Trash Bags.
- Biohazard Tags or Tape (for sealing and marking biohazard bags).
- Nylon scrub brushes.
- Nylon scrub pads.
- Paper towels or disposable shop towels.
- Inert absorbing material (i.e., kitty litter, diatomaceous earth, absorbent pads, etc.).
- Cardboard boxes.
- Stretch wrap or plastic sheeting for disposal of large items.

NOTE: The use of high temperature solutions or cleaning methods may cause contaminants to solidify and set into semi-porous or porous materials making them harder to remove.

SITE PREPARATION & ENGINEERING CONTROLS

- **Warning Signs Posted** – Highly visible warning signs should be posted at the entrance of the contaminated area.
- **Work Control Practices** – Personal protective equipment should be donned at all times within the contaminated work area. Consuming food or drink, smoking, handling contact lenses or applying cosmetics inside the affected area should be prohibited.
- **Personnel Decontamination** – Clean up personnel should wash hands with soap and running water after removing personal protective equipment. Antiseptic hand wipes or gels may be used in the absence of hand washing facilities or water.
- **Cross-contamination Control** - All infectious waste materials should be sealed in double-bagged, heavy-duty trash bags and tagged or marked as hazardous materials prior to removal from the contaminated area.

HARD SURFACE CLEANING & DISINFECTION

- **Remove Excessive Contamination** - Liquid blood or fluids should be removed by blotting with absorbent pads, paper towels, or absorbent materials, such as kitty litter or diatomaceous earth powder, which helps solidify the contaminants making it easier to clean up.
- **Thoroughly Clean** – Affected areas should be thoroughly cleaned with Vital Oxide solution.
- **Disinfect** – Apply enough Vital Oxide to the pre-cleaned surface to allow it to remain wet for at least 10 minutes, followed by wiping dry or air-drying.
- **Refuse Decontamination** - All infectious materials, including cleaning supplies or materials contaminated with blood or body fluids should be decontaminated by wetting thoroughly with Vital Oxide prior to being placed in biohazard bags for disposal.

POROUS SURFACE CLEANING & DEODORIZING

Effective cleaning and deodorizing of porous and semi-porous materials can be a challenge and items that tend to absorb excessive amounts of blood/body fluids should be discarded and replaced.

1. **Unsalvageable Materials** – Carpet, rugs, mattresses, pillows, furniture cushions, upholstery and other fabric items saturated with blood/body fluid should be discarded in the following manner.

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

- A. Remove Excess Contamination** – Scrape or scoop excess contamination or debris from affected area.
- B. Excise Contaminated Sections** - Cut out and remove blood/fluid saturated sections of the unsalvageable material.
- C. Decontaminate Excised Sections** – Thoroughly wet cut out sections with Vital Oxide solution and place in double-bagged biohazard bag for disposal.
- D. Decontaminate Remainder of Unsalvageable Object** – Dampen remaining surfaces of the unsalvageable item with Vital Oxide and place in a double-bagged biohazard bag or cover with stretch wrap/clear plastic sheeting and seal with biohazard tape or tag prior to discarding.

- 2. Salvageable Materials** – Semi-porous and porous items with light blood/fluid soiling or splatters may be cleaned and deodorized with Vital Oxide products.

NOTE: The use of high temperature or heat cleaning methods may cause contaminants to solidify and set into the materials making them harder to remove.

- A. Remove Excessive Contamination** – Remove visible contaminants or debris from surface by gently scrapping or blotting. Avoid the use of excess pressure to minimize forcing liquid contaminants deeper into the material.
- B. Cleaning** – Use Vital Oxide to clean, deodorize and remove stains.
 - Apply Vital Oxide to affected area and gently work product into material and let dwell for 10 minutes.
 - Clean and extract affected area with room-temperature water using a carpet or upholstery- cleaning machine. Repeat until debris and staining is removed.
 - Blot or air-dry.
- C. Deodorize** – Use Vital Oxide products to remove germs and neutralize offensive odors.
 - Apply Vital Oxide product to affected area and gently rub or work into material.
 - Allow to remain damp for 10 minutes.
 - Blot or air-dry.

NOTE: In situations where occupants might suffer from severe allergies or chemically-induced sensitivities, the restorer may opt to extract the treated areas using a carpet or upholstery cleaning machine and warm water as a final step to the deodorizing process.

EQUIPMENT & PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

- **Reusable Tools & Equipment** – Reusable job site tools and equipment should be cleaned and disinfected with Vital Oxide prior to removal from the affected area.

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BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

- **Disposable Tools** – Disposable tools should be liberally sprayed with Vital Oxide and placed in double-bagged biohazard bags prior to discarding.
- **Carpet/Upholstery Machine Wastewater** – Wastewater should be drained and disposed of down the sanitary sewer.
- **Carpet/Upholstery Machine Hoses & Wands** – Mist or spray Vital Oxide into wand head while vacuum unit is running to decontaminate the interior surfaces of hoses and wands. Wipe exterior wand and hose surfaces clean with paper towel saturated with Vital Oxide solution and let air dry.
- **Carpet/Upholstery Machine Waste Tanks** – Waste tank surfaces should be drained as outlined in Carpet/Upholstery Machine Wastewater above and decontaminated by spraying with Vital Oxide, wiped clean, followed by re-applying Vital Oxide to all interior surfaces and air-drying.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** – All PPE should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected with Vital Oxide, rinsed with potable water and dried.

NOTE: Refer to the PPE manufacturers specified cleaning and maintenance instructions.

