Practical Guide: Spray Gun Maintenance



Spray Guns | Cup Systems | Breathing Protection | Air Filtration | Accessories



Optimum cleaning and maintenance

Waterborne Materials

Solvent-based Materials

Please note:

Use **pH-neutral** cleaning solutions only.

Please strictly observe the manufacturer's dosage instructions and product specifications!



With the use of the RPS cup system, consumption of cleaning solution as well as labour time can be significantly reduced

Use either solvent-containing cleaning solution or clean thinner, respectively.

Please note: Please make sure to add clean thinner regularly if you use distillation systems as reclaimed fluids could otherwise become too aggressive causing surface damage.

During the dayWhen using disposable cups or SATA

Using disposable cups or SATA RPS reduces the cleaning process to cleaning the material passage of the spray gun only. The RCS cleaning device can be installed inside or outside the spray booth.



During intermediate cleaning the spray gun can remain connected to the air line. Work interruption is reduced to a minimum. Intermediate cleaning of the spray gun and a complete colour change, respectively, can be conducted within 20-30 sec.

At the end of a working day or whenever spray guns are extremely dirty, self-contained gun cleaning machines are the ideal solution. In combination with an integrated dry-blow device, these systems provide perfect cleaning results.



Self-contained gun cleaning machines rely on an automated cleaning process and are therefore particularly cost-effective. A brush soaked with cleaning solution may be used to pre-clean the spray gun.

Please observe:

After each cleaning, the spray gun, the inside of the air cap as well as the part of the gun body where the air distribution insert is located must be thoroughly rinsed with clean water and be thoroughly dryblown afterwards to avoid corrosion.



Dry-blowing of the cleaned spray gun prevents cleaning residues from contaminating the painting process which may cause painting flaws.

Manual cleaning of spray guns

Disassembly of nozzle set



First remove paint needle.



Followed by the cap.



And finally, unscrew fluid tip with the ring spanner integrated in the universal spanner.

Cleaning and drying



Clean the material passage



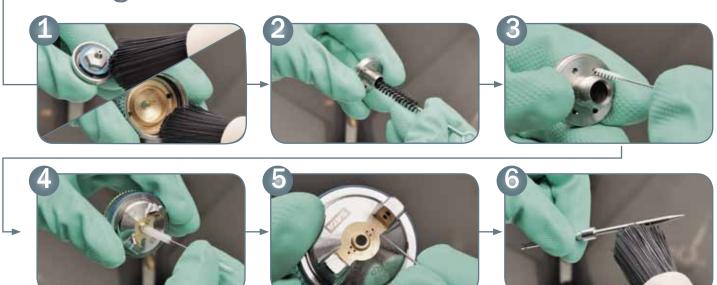
Clean the spray gun body



Dry with blow gun

When cleaning the spray gun manually, please ensure not to use brushes made of metal wires which could possibly damage the spray gun. Furthermore, please make sure that no cleaning fluid ends up in the air passages of the spray gun body - we recommend leaving the spray gun connected to the air line with the air flow rate reduced to the minimum!

Cleaning of the nozzle set



When cleaning the nozzle components, please make sure that metal parts of brushes do not damage the nozzle set.

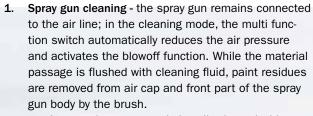
Ideally, please use specially designed SATA cleaning brushes and SATA nozzle cleaning needles to ensure optimum

cleaning and maintenance of the nozzle

Intermediate cleaning

with SATA clean RCS

SATA clean RCS is a cleaning system for intermediate spray gun cleaning operated with compressed air. It optimises the painting process and thus increases the profitability of the bodyshop. The installation of SATA clean RCS in the spray booth allows one or more successive colour changes with extremely short cleaning intervals by avoiding unnecessary, additional trips in and out of the booth.



Tip: In case the spray gun is heavily clogged with paint, the brush may also be employed to clean the material passage.

- 2. Dry-blowing Remaining cleaning fluid is thoroughly removed in the drying compartment it is essential that the inside of the air cap and the zone around the air distribution insert is thoroughly dry-blown before each work break.
- 3. Colour changes Within approx. 25-30 secs, a colour change is completed.

Tip: The RCS offers an ideal deposit area on top of the device for consecutive colours already prepared in disposable cups or RPS cups. The painter no longer has to leave the spray booth for colour changes.



1. Cleaning of material passage and air cap



2. Dry-blowing of spray gun



3. Colour change



Cleaning

in self-contained gun cleaning machines such as SATA multi clean 2

Important:

When using self-contained gun cleaning machines, please make sure that the spray gun is placed inside the gun washer in the correct position (please see below). Cleaning agent should not penetrate the air passages of the spray gun.

Possible consequences:

- Clogged air passages
- Incorrect pressure measuring > incorrect pressure is indicated!
- Faulty spray pattern and colour tone variations
- Digital pressure display turns black or fails
- Paint contamination

CORRECT

Important advice

- 1. Connect blow air
- 2. Fix gun trigger

Tip: If the gun washer has no tension spring, please use air distribution insert removal tool (included in tool kit)

- 3. Fully open air micrometer to ensure that air can stream through the gun and out of the air cap
- **4. Correct position:** Gun suspension hook must be located in the lowest position

INCORRECT

Important advice

- 1. No blow air connection
- 2. Gun trigger not fixed
- Wrong position of spray gun → cleaning fluid may penetrate the air passages and cause clogging or complete blocking long-term





SATA multi clean 2°

SATA

1. Insert spray gun



2. Connect air connection to air inlet



Assembly and Maintenance



Assembly of the fluid tip



Tighten fluid tip by hand using the universal spanner.



Assembly of the air cap

When installing the nozzle set, please ensure that the fluid tip is **hand-tightened** with the enclosed ring spanner of the universal tool to ensure a safely seated seal.

Each SATA spray gun and each replacement nozzle set are hand-adjusted and spray-tested. With a vertical spray fan, the air cap has to be positioned in a way that the laser-etched air cap marking can be read from the front. The marking on the outside of the air cap horn placed in the uppermost position instead indicates the correct orientation when spraying with a horizontal spray fan.



Grease paint needle around the needle packing area



Insert paint needle



Grease and insert paint needle spring

Over the years, the silicone-free SATA high performance spray gun grease which is compatible with paint has proven to be the perfect maintenance agent when thinly applied on all moving components as well as on all threads. This ensures free movement and perfect function of the components even after many years of use. **Illustration see above** - Art. No. 48173



Grease thread of material flow control screw



Install material flow control screw



Grease visible part of air piston rod



SATA high performance grease, silicone and acid-free



Correcting Faulty Spray Patterns



Dirty or damaged nozzle components may cause faulty spray patterns. However, dirt can be easily removed.









sion hook is located at the lowest point.



Defect	Possible cause	Corrective Action
Spray pattern is not large enough	Air drillings and air passages are clogged	Clean the air cap with cleaning solution using a suitable cleaning brush; afterwards blow dry thoroughly
② Angular or S-shaped spray fan	Horn air drillings are clogged	Thoroughly clean the air cap with suitable cleaning utensils; replace the nozzle set, if necessary
3 Half-moon shaped spray fan	Horn drillings are contaminated on one side or front drillings are clogged	Clean the air cap with cleaning solution using a suitable cleaning brush; afterwards blow dry thoroughly
4 Lopsided spray fan	Fluid tip (fluid tip pin) and/or air cap damaged	Make sure that fluid tip and air cap are undamaged; replace nozzle set, if required
Splitting spray fan	The atomisation pressure is too high	Adjust the inlet pressure in line with the requirements of the paint material being used
	The material viscosity is too low	Properly adjust viscosity; use smaller nozzle size, if necessary
Corrosion on the air cap thread, inside material passages (cup connection) or on spray gun body	Cleaning solution (water-based) has not been thoroughly rinsed off after cleaning and the zone around the air cap as well as where the air distribution insert of the spray gun is located have not been thoroughly blown dry.	After cleaning, unscrew the air cap and blow dry spray gun / air cap from inside and outside
	Use of inappropriate cleaning solutions, either not pH-neutral or reclaimed solvent which is chemically too aggressive	Use pH-neutral cleaning solution (pH 6.0 - 8.0) and/or rinse thoroughly with neutral solution, dry blow spray gun / air cap from inside and outside. Please observe usage instructions of the cleaning solution.
Black digital display	Spray gun has been soaked in cleaning solution.	Do not soak spray gun in cleaning solution.
	Spray gun was left in spray gun washer for an extended period of time, e.g. over night	Take out the spray gun from the cleaning solution immediately after completion of the cleaning process and dry blow thoroughly.
	Cleaning solution has been blown into spray gun, with spray gun head pointing upwards and air cap removed at the same time	Manual cleaning: Please ensure that nozzle head points downwards when cleaning the spray gun. Spray Gun Washer: Spray gun must be flushed with air – ensuring that the spray gun suspen-

German Engineering – more than you expect

SATA spray guns are exclusively developed and manufactured in Germany. State-of-the-art and high efficiency production facilities complying with latest technologies ensure highest precision during the manufacturing process of SATA spray guns. The continuous further improvement of the products and the manufacturing processes is a core part of the company philosophy.



Quality assurance: SATA spray guns are exclusively developed and manufactured in Germany. Strict quality controls are in place to monitor each manufacturing process.



Final assembly: The high precision components are assembled with ultimate care.



Manual adjustment: Each nozzle set is manually "tuned" in order to ensure an optimum spray pattern.



100 % **spray fan check:** The result is the perfect spray fan meeting highest quality expectations.

For further tips and tricks concerning maintenance and service please pay us a visit at www. sata.com/firstaid.

Should you have any questions, please contact us under +49 (0) 7154/811-200!



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