

ULTRASONIC CHECKLIST

ULTRASONIC EXPERT SERIES

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Thomas Overbey, CCSVP
Marketing Director, Ultra Clean Systems Inc.

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Many things need to happen prior to ultrasonic cleaning. Moistening instruments in the OR and precleaning in the decontamination area is vital, but you should also consider your ultrasonic machine in the preparation of cleaning instruments. It is highly advisable to create and follow a checklist of actions that are critical to optimal ultrasonic cleaning.

- Make sure your machine is tested each morning with a verification test with no instruments so you know your machine is working properly.
- Make sure your machine is properly cleaned before each use, as it is best to use clean water for each use.- One way to assure best ultrasonic cleaning outcomes is to change the drain filter at least once per eight-hour shift.
- If you have a detergent dosing system, make sure the supply level is good and that the system is properly dispensing.- Preclean, yes, but preinspect, too. Don't put instruments that are visibly soiled in a cleaner.
- Try not to overcrowd your trays! It's better to process fewer instruments over a longer period with confidence in your cleaning rather than having none of them confidently cleaned because of overcrowding.

Meeting AAMI guidelines is one thing, but exceeding a guideline that does not impose a safety risk and improves your instrument cleaning outcomes is another. Always try to keep ahead of the game, not just on top of it. All ultrasonic systems have their limits so be considerate to your ultrasonic cleaner.

Beyond Clean Ultrasonic Expert Biography:

**THOMAS OVERBEY, CCSVP
MARKETING DIRECTOR,
ULTRA CLEAN SYSTEMS, INC.**



Thomas Overbey's experience originated as media producer at the University of South Florida, College of Medicine, producing content for medical research and education. Overbey has generated live and on-demand surgical procedures for peer-to-peer training and produced the first live hybrid surgical case pushed to iPhones and computers. For the past six years, Overbey has served as the marketing director for Ultra Clean Systems promoting safe cleaning practices, and serves as an advocate for connecting the OR to the SPD for maximum operational efficiency. Tom has presented numerous times at IAHCSSM conferences as well as at the inaugural OR Today Live! event in 2015 on residual protein detection. He has published educational content for Healthcare Purchasing News as well as PROCESS, formerly Communiqué, an educational and feature publication for IAHCSSM. Tom also publishes NewSplash, a weekly newsletter bringing positive news and educational event information for the sterile processing and infection control community.

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