Consultants Update *COVID-19*

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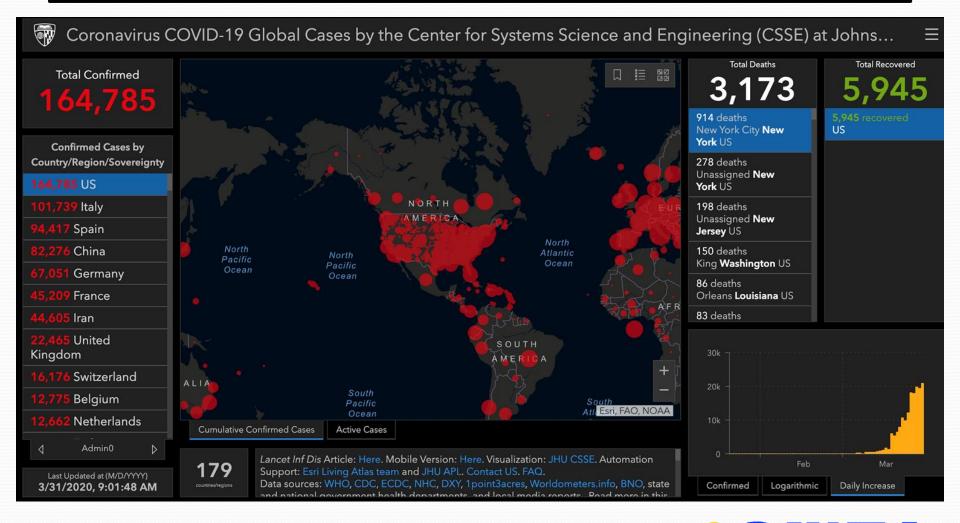


Discussion Topics

- → Current state of COVID-19
- → Alternative Cleaning from CGA (SA-35)
- → OSHA reporting of Coronavirus



Current State of COVID-19



P-83 Cleaning Cylinders

- The cleaning method shall not have a detrimental effect on the medical gas container, valve, and other accessories and shall be approved by the gas supplier
- When cleaning untreated metallic parts of a medical gas container, avoid using cleaning agents that contain ammonia, amine-based compounds, or chlorine-based compounds (such as bleach)
- The healthcare facility should contact the gas supplier if there is any doubt concerning the method to be used to clean the container.
- They should report whether they have cleaned the medical gas container

Accepted Method

After the contamination has been removed, the medical gas container shall be disinfected using

isopropyl alcohol (IPA) or equivalent disinfectant wipes

Disinfection agents shall be approved by the gas supplier and used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

The application of alcohol-based disinfectants shall be limited to prevent excessive amounts on the valve and/or cylinder that could cause a potential fire risk.

Ensure that all residual disinfection agents are removed from the medical gas container.

SB-35 Alternative Cleaning

Questions have been recently asked whether compressed gas containers may be washed with soap/water solutions, or disinfected using a dilute bleach/water solution following CDC recommendations

if external contamination is suspected when containers are returned from healthcare facilities or patients' homes

and the <u>customer has not acknowledged</u> their responsibility to return uncontaminated containers or could not adequately clean the container.



SB-35 Alternative Cleaning

During the COVID-19 crisis, consideration may be given to the use of

- soap/water solutions to clean,
- or a dilute bleach/water solution followed by a clean water rinse

to disinfect returned containers that may not have been properly cleaned and decontaminated.

IF isopropyl alcohol (IPA) or other flammable disinfectants are used as a spray application to disinfect containers, great care must be taken to ensure that there is no residual left in the valve outlet prior to the cylinder being refilled.

Such consideration should carefully weigh immediate cleaning concerns against possible longer-term effects on the container and the valve.

References

[1] CGA P-83, Guidelines for Cleaning Externally Contaminated Medical Gas Containers, Compressed Gas Association, Inc.

www.cganet.com

[2] CGA V-12, Leak Detection Fluids Use with Gas Cylinder Package, Compressed Gas Association, Inc. www.cganet.com

[3] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations,

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html

[4] CGA SB-35, Clgeaning of Cylinders Returned from Healthcare Facilities During a Pandemic, Compressed Gas Association, Inc.

www.cganet.com



OSHA Reporting of COVID-19

- Confirmed case of COVID-19
- Qualifies as Work Related
- Medical Treatment beyond First-aid



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