

APPENDIX **A** EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

A-101 EXPOSURE UNIT

Cleanliness of the exposure unit is essential for good quality plates. Keep both the vacuum surface and film cover clean at all times. Periodic washing of the film cover is advised and can be done effectively with a window cleaner and soft, lint-free rag or paper towel. *DO NOT USE A GLASS WAX* since this leaves a film of residue on the cover.

A good practice is to clean all negatives and the surface of the vacuum frame by brushing lightly with a soft brush or lint-free cloth before each exposure. Static eliminator brushes are quite effective for this purpose, especially when exposing halftone films.

A-102 ZIP PROCESSOR

Regular cleaning of the Zip Processor is extremely important. A dirty Zip Processor will cause plate quality problems.

If the Zip Processor is used periodically... remove and clean the rollers with a clean sponge and hot water immediately after draining the chemicals into the reservoir bottles.

IMPORTANT: Some models of Zip Processors do not have reservoir bottles. Never leave chemicals in the processor when it is not being used for a long period of time since this may cause the rollers to swell. If the Zip Processor is used extensively... scrub the rollers and wells with a Scotch-Brite pad and hot water at least once a week. Be careful in using Scotch-Brite pads not to rub too hard. Aggressive rubbing destroys the effectiveness of the rollers leading to a premature need for replacement.

Another method of cleaning the Zip Processor that doesn't require scrubbing is to:

1. Drain the processor of all chemicals.
2. Rinse rollers and wells with warm tap water.

ter with the rollers in place.

4. Turn the machine on and allow to cycle for 3 or 4 hours. If you follow this procedure *regularly*, 1 hour is sufficient.

Cleaning the processor in this manner helps remove residual chemicals impregnated in the roller rubber without abrading the surface itself. In addition, cleaning the processor keeps the bearing surfaces and motor housing free from chemical contamination. Be sure to drain the water and rinse once more with pure water before refilling the machine with chemicals. *Never use any cleaning agent or chemical to clean the Zip Processor.* These could either contaminate the processor or degrade the rollers. This deserves repetition. *Never use any cleaning agent or chemical to clean the Zip Processor.*

A-103 SEALING TANK

Drain and clean the sealing tank at least once every 3 to 4 weeks (1 to 2 weeks for No-Nickel Baths) or when the amount of production shown below has been reached, whichever comes first.

USEFUL LIFE OF SEALING BATH NUMBER OF PLATES PER GALLON OF SEALING SOLUTION

PLATE	NUMBER	SIZE
Metalphoto	75	10x12
Metalphoto Plus, pre-dyed	30	10x12
UltraColor, pre-dyed	30	10x12
UltraColor, clear	30	10x12
PolyColor	30	10x12

To clean the tank...

1. Turn off the tank and unplug.
2. Drain out all the old sealing bath.
3. Rinse out with tap water.
4. Fill tank with fresh tap water.
5. Scrub the walls of the tank and heating

3. Fill machine with deionized or distilled water.
element with a Scotch-Brite pad. *Do not use any chemical cleaning agents.* Traces of these materials can contaminate the tank and interfere with the sealing process.
6. Drain the tank and rinse once more with deionized or distilled water.
7. The tank is now clean and ready for a fresh batch of sealing solution.

A-104 TRAYS AND TANKS

You must use plastic or glass trays or tanks for processing UltraColor plates. Do not use metal materials with UltraColor Bleach, UltraColor Cleaner, or with Metalphoto Image Intensifier. Clean tanks or trays with water to remove all used chemicals. Cover trays or tanks to prevent contamination and retard evaporation when not processing. Use separate plastic containers for partially used UltraColor Bleach or dye solutions. Never return partially used solutions to original containers. Never use a tray that has been used for image intensification for any other purpose.