

Bag Cycling Strategy

for CS-30 CRACKSWEEP & RV-30 RAMP VAC

FamDel / G's Fldr / CrackSweep & RampVac - All Info

Much the same as most home vacuum cleaners the CS-30 CrackSweep and RV-30 RampVac walk behind vacuums use a filter bag. This large bag on the rear of the machine serves as both the captured debris container, *and* the machine's airflow exhaust. Just like a home vacuum, a clean filter bag provides the best cleaning results.

However, as a result of normal sweeping operations a fine coating of dust begins to build up on the filter bags inner surfaces. After some operating time this coating becomes thick enough to restrict airflow through the system. The length of time this takes depends on the amount of fine sand/dust in the local environment. When it happens, air can no longer pass freely through the weave of the bag fabric and fewer cubic feet per minute of air move through the vacuum. You will see the result of this as a reduction in the amount and size of debris the machine is able to lift off the sweeping surface.

At this point unless the bag is turned fully inside out to clean it thoroughly, the machine is simply unable to supply the peak performance provided with a clean bag. And this is where the "human factor" comes into play. If the proper bag cleaning procedure is not used, completing this task will leave the cleaning person covered with dust and dirt. And rest assured – they will be unhappy with having to do this job again, and may avoid turning the bag inside out to accomplish the required effective cleaning.

That is where the Bag Cycling Strategy comes in. If an extra debris bag (or two) is procured at the time of the initial purchase, (or later), as soon as the vacuum suction drops off enough to notice, remove the dirty bag and replace it with a clean bag. You will find that the vacuum returns immediately to peak sweeping performance. Then, at the next opportunity the inside of the dirty bag(s) can be thoroughly cleaned without a loss of machine operating time.

The best and most thorough method, and also the easiest on your personnel, is to take the dirty bag(s) to the wash rack. For personal protection, put on coveralls or raingear, rubber boots, a dust mask and safety glasses. Standing upwind, unzip a dirty bag. Slowly turn it completely inside out and hang it up so as much surface area as possible is exposed for cleaning. (Done carefully, you can minimize the amount of airborne dust that will fly off the bag). Repeat until all bags are inside out, hung up and ready to wash. Stand back upwind, and blast each bag thoroughly with the high pressure wash wand. Let the bags air dry completely before use. Do NOT dry the bag in a hot air laundry dryer – it will shrink.

This method reduces the human resistance factor and, since the minimum amount of airborne dust is generated, you will find it is the most popular with your personnel.

The other method is to remove the bag, take it to the nearest dumpster, unzip carefully and turn it inside out. Hold the bag over the edge of the dumpster. Shake it so as much dust as possible goes into the dumpster. Since this method generates a dust cloud, the use of coveralls, dust mask and safety glasses is required for personal protection. Be advised that this method is less effective than using the high pressure water, as it will leave a residue of dust in the pores of the bag.

If the inside of the debris bag is cleaned when needed - the performance of your machine will be top notch. If you have any questions about bag cleaning or any other operating procedures for your CRACKSWEEP or RAMP VAC, please contact Garth Hughes anytime at info@fodcontrol.com.