

The easiest and most effective way to clean filter cloth is while the cloths are still installed on the filter press plates. This necessitates a system to handle the procedure i.e. a holding tank, pumps, recirculating piping, valves etc. which are usually provided by the filter press or system supplier. For safety, great care must be taken to ensure that the cleaning solution does not squirt from between the filter plates during the cleaning cycle. Recessed plates should use splash curtains or the filter press should be equipped with CGR plates (O ring seals).

A 5% solution of HCl (hydrochloric / muriatic acid) combined with a non-ionic detergent at ambient temperature is the most common starting point for a cleaning solution. Similarly caustic solutions may also be used depending upon the type of contaminant being removed.

On systems discharging from 4 corner ports, close the bottom two ports and recirculate through the top filter ports continuously until the cloths are thoroughly clean. Note: effective closure of the filter press is important, as circulating liquor without solids will have edge leaks (wicking). Drip trays, if available, should be used. Splash curtains must be used on recessed style plates.

If the installation is not set up for an in situ chemical wash, then cloths may be removed and simply placed in a container to soak in the cleaning solution. Polypropylene cloths may be cleaned in many solutions as the fiber has high tolerance to acids and alkalis; nylon should not be exposed to very low pH levels and polyester to very high levels.

Synthetic cloths need only be neutralized before being reinstalled. Drying of the cloths in industrial dryers is not recommended because this will cause shrinkage with resulting misalignment on the filter plates. Cloths may be spun dry, if required, to make them easier to handle. If left draped in a wet state, the cloths will dry without any detrimental effect to the fiber as most synthetics have little or no moisture regain(absorption).

If you require further information please contact your representative at:
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