

DAVE DROWN'S TIPS: HOW TO CLEAN IES EQUIPMENT (July 17, 2005)

A. Items each swim meet host team should have on hand during the meet:

- 8 "D cell" alkaline batteries (spares for the System 5 deck computer - it will not operate without good back-up batteries installed)
- Surge protector power strip (for the System 5 unless you are running it completely on battery power, in which case you need several spare sets of D cells)

B. Supplies to clean timing system cable connectors:

- "Lime-A-Way" or "CLR" hard water scale corrosion cleaner
- CRC Heavy Duty Silicone Lubricant spray can
- cotton swabs
- clean rags

C. Procedure specified by Colorado Time Systems is:

1. Use "Lime-A-Way" or "CLR" hard water scale corrosion cleaner on a cotton swab, dab it on and let it sit for several minutes.
2. Then rinse with clean fresh water (not chlorinated pool water!).
3. Dry.
4. Apply a small amount of silicone grease. [CRC brand "Heavy Duty Silicone Multi-Use Lubricant" spray can which is ~\$2.59 for a 7.5 OZ. can is good] see pages Timing Computer manual pages A-3 through A-5

DO NOT USE SOLVENTS such as contact cleaners which can attack the plastic plug housings or vinyl cable materials.

D. Other useful supplies:

- "De-Solv-It Citrus Solution" (a squirt bottle of this works wonders removing duct tape sticky residue and the Velcro adhesive when repairing pad mounts, but don't use it on the electronic connectors)
- AMMONIA-FREE glass cleaner (a squirt bottle of this to clean the computer screen & keypad, also to clean the pad mount strips after De-Solv-It before putting on new Velcro)
- a simple multi-meter that can measure 5 volts DC and open/closed continuity
- (also 110 volt AC if you want to check the facility power receptacles)

These helpful hints, tips and suggestions are brought to you by:

David C. Drown ddrown@adelphia.net
D.C. Drown Associates phone: 208-882-1320
818 Vista Street cell: 208-892-3130
Moscow, ID 83843-9629 <http://www.uidaho.edu/~ddrown>

Associate Professor BEL 303 phone: 208-885-7848
Chemical Engineering Department, phone: 208-885-7572
University of Idaho fax: 208-885-7462
Moscow, ID 83844-1021 ddrown@uidaho.edu