

Pump Maintenance for a Long Pump Life Time

Syringe Pumps and Peristaltic Pumps are computer controlled mechanical machines. They get dusty – even in clean environments. These great laboratory devices cost a lot of money – so you should look after them by performing some pump maintenance for a long pump life time. Reliability and repeatability of pumping flows are important to manufacturing and scientific users.



What are the Pump Maintenance items that you can do?

Most importantly keep your fluids away from your pump. If your plumbing weeps under pressure – fix it.

If leaking fluids pool around your pumps has the

CHROMalytic +61(0)3 9762 2034
ECHnology Pty Ltd
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what ever you CD display if

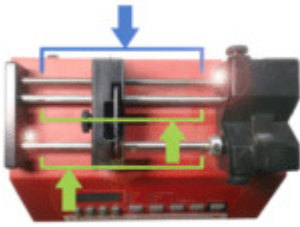
are highly resistant to rust – but rusty components bring about pumps stalling and excess wear affecting your pump's precision.



Clean all spills from the pump in a manner approved for the materials you are pumping. A lint free cloth can be used to clean LCD displays – but don't apply a lot of pressure – you might damage the display. Treat it as you would your mobile phone – maybe better than your mobile phone :-). For more stubborn staining the lint free cloth may have some **isopropyl alcohol** applied to that it is barely moist and the stain can be cleaned.

Oiling – How should you oil your pump?

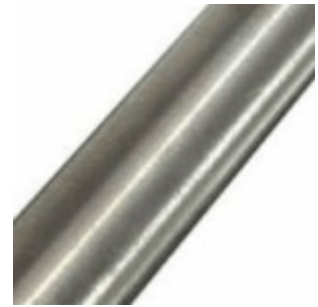
Should you oil your syringe pump? Syringe pumps have a lead screw that is subject to considerable pressure forces. There is a **nut block** running up and down the thread on the leadscrew. There are



1 drop of oil at these points

two **guide rails** either side of the **leadscrew** as well, which if they become mechanically sticky will affect the pump's performance.

The pump's lead screw and guide rods, should be very lightly oiled when they look dry. Look for a slight oil sheen – if isn't there – lubricate. Make sure you clean the parts you oil first to remove any dust and other dirt from them. The lead screw can be difficult to clean.



Guide Rod Close Up

- Use 1 or 2 small drops of light machine oil on the leadscrew (blue arrows) – one either side of the pusher is best.
- 1 drop on each guide rod (green arrows).

Why more oil on the threaded rod? Pressure and surface area of the lead screw.

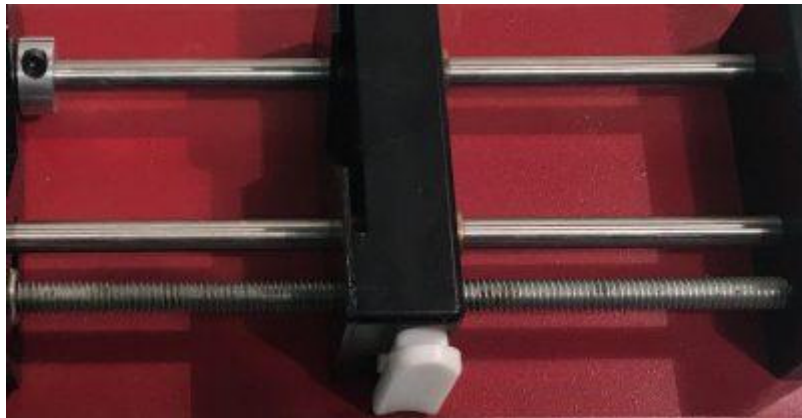
Then operate the pump with no syringe fitted to spread the oil up and down the lead screw.

Be careful not to flood the lead screw or the guide rods as the excess oil will be squee-geed out to the ends of the lead screw by the nut-block assembly traveling back and forth. You might find that either end of the top of your pump will become oily. This will then spread across your pump as a fine film of oil



Lead Screw Up Close

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Normal lead screw wear

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