

What to do when your spray hose is partially blocked with Isocyanate crystals.

Isocyanate is a reactive chemical. It will react with moisture in the air and form crystals. The spray hose and the supply hose can resist moisture to some degree, but can't completely stop it. If a spray rig sits unused for a week or more, Crystals will start to grow inside the isocyanate side of the hoses. There is no mechanical means to remove them. In other words, there is no snake that you can push through to scrape the crystals out without damaging the hose. You can flush the system out with solvents that are compatible with isocyanate, but solvents are not 100% effective. Once the system is flushed, you will still need to clean out the gun screen frequently. The more you spray, the less frequent you will need to clean the screens.

So what is the flushing process?

- 1. Wear proper PPE gear, gloves, mask, eye protection and coveralls if needed.
- 2. Place the A side transfer pump into a clean 5 gallon bucket and secure it so that it cannot fall over while running.
- 3. Fill the bucket with about 4 gallons of SURF X FLUSH.
- 4. Remove the gun from the end of the spray hose.
- 5. Start the air compressor and let it build pressure. Connect the airline to the transfer pump.
- 6. Open the isocyanate valve on the gun block over a waste bucket until the liquid runs clear and close the manual valve. Properly dispose of that material.
- 7. Close the ball valve at the Y strainer.
- 8. Remove the gun block from the A side hose.
- 9. Secure a paint strainer to the end of the hose to catch the crystals
- 10. Secure the A side hose into the same bucket as the transfer pump is in.
- 11. Add more solvent to the bucket if needed.
- 12. Open the valve at the Y strainer and let the solvent recirculate for at least 4 hours.
- The faster the solvent goes through the system, the more effective it can work.
- 14. At this point you can push the solvent out of the system with isocyanate and be ready to spray foam, or if the rig is not going to be used for a while, flush the solvent out with SURF A LUBE. This is a storage fluid.
- 15. Do not leave SURF X FLUSH in the system overnight.
- Do not use heat during this process with these solvents. The proportioner does NOT need to be on.