



## RUAC STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

### TITLE: MSB – Operation and Maintenance of Rack and Tunnel Washer and Dump Station

SOP Category: Facilities

RUAC SOP #: 2.18

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Approval: *Lisa Antonucci*

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#### SCOPE:

This SOP covers the operation of the following MSB cage wash equipment:

Dump Station  
Tunnel washer  
Rack washer

#### OBJECTIVE:

This document establishes the procedures for operation of the cage wash equipment at RBHS Medical Science Building Newark.

#### PROCEDURE:

**Dump Station-** The Allentown Dump Station is used when dumping cages. By dumping cages in this, the air flow is hepa filtered keeping the operator safer from the dander etc.

- Turn unit on and place empty lined barrel under the center hole to collect the dirty bedding and fecal matter from cages.
- Dump each cage inside unit.
- When operation is completed clean the stainless with a quatracide solution and vacuum the pre-filter on a regular basis at a minimum every week, wash the pre-filter by hand in quatracide solution as needed using lukewarm water, do not place in the tunnel washer or rack washer.
- Unit is certified each year by TSS.



**Tunnel washer** - MSB Tunnel washer is a Buxton Tunnel Washer. The tunnel washer is primarily used for washing rodent caging (shoe box bottoms, wire bars, MI tops, water bottles, and accessories). The tunnel washer is a cage washer that moves cages automatically on a conveyer from the entrance to the exit exposing the cages to a pre-rinse, wash, rinse, and drying.



### **Starting Tunnel washer**

Before operating machine for the day

- Check the level in detergent drums and acid drum from side utility room.
- Clean out screens

Turning on the Machine

On Dirty side cage wash

- Use touch screen panel on side of machine.
- Push the power button.
  - The tunnel washer will automatically fill and heat.
  - Press the “Start” button; the conveyer will automatically advance allowing cages to be washed.
  - The tunnel washer has a “Stop” button on both the clean and dirty side to stop the machine while washing cages.



### **Shutting off tunnel washer**

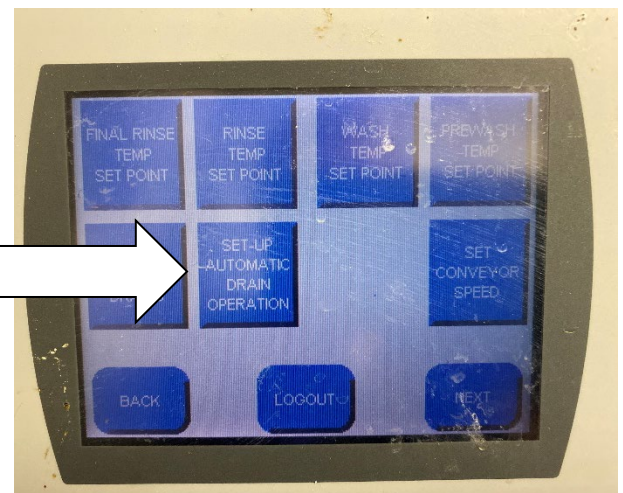
- Clean or Dirty Side Animal Care Technician
  - Press the “Stop” button.

### **End of day procedures:**

- To drain the tanks, press the set-up button on touch screen, press the “Drain both tanks manually” button. Machine will drain and then shut down.
- From dirty side hose down the front of the machine and flush out the debris.
- Hose and clean the work space.

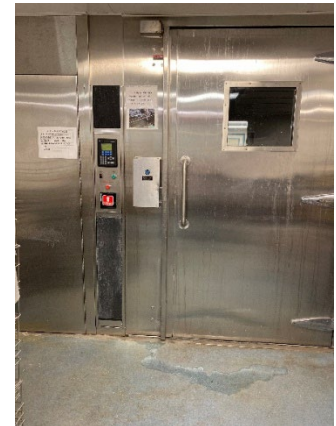
### **Maintenance of the tunnel washer**

- Once a month, turn on the acid descale program from service area, to clean the machine. At end of the day drain the tanks.



- RV Industries performs preventative maintenance (PM) on the tunnel washers.
- Repairs are scheduled and coordinated with RV Industries through the RUAC supervisors, and manager.

**Rack Washer** – MSB Rack Washer is a Buxton Rack Washer. The rack washer is primarily used for washing racks, carts and larger items. The rack washer can also be used for washing rodent caging shoebox bottoms, wire bars, MI tops, card holders and water bottles by using a special rack made for washing those items in the rack washer. The rack washer is a contained washer that has mechanical arms that spin over the items being washed from sides and top of washer. Each cycle washes with a pre-rinse, wash, final rinse and drying.



**Do not operate the rack cage washer until you have received training in the operation of the washer, and the safety features specific to the machine. Training covers:**

1. How to exit the machine should you be accidentally trapped inside
  2. Use of emergency shut off safety devices for the machine.
- Training will be conducted and documented by the manager or supervisor.**



### **Starting Rack Washer**

- Be sure all debris is removed from bottom of washer before using especially around the strainer.
- On dirty side turn washer on by pushing the power button.
- Open door and place the load inside machine keeping clear of the arms on top and sides.
- Press cycle button on the desired load.
- Press F4 “cycle start”
- On clean side pull the door open when buzzer sounds that load is completed.
- Start procedure from top until all items are washed.
- When the tunnel washer is not usable the rack washer can be used for washing smaller items like water bottles, shoe box cages, MI tops, wire bars and misc items.

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- Use the cage rack or the pan rack for items like Rabbit pans or other items from the large animals.

**Shutting Off Rack Washer**

Washer will shut down after no use or push the off button.

**Maintenance of Rack Washer**

- RV Industries performs preventative maintenance (PM) on the rack washers.
- Repairs are scheduled and coordinated with RV Industries through the RUAC supervisors, manager and the Assistant Director of Operations.