



# Waterline Maintenance Guide

The Maintain | Monitor | Shock approach is an effective and practical method for ongoing self-contained waterline care.

*See the other side for detailed instructions.*



MAINTAIN



MONITOR



SHOCK

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## MAINTAIN with A-dec ICX®

For daily waterline maintenance, A-dec ICX water treatment tablets are specially formulated to maintain dental unit waterlines and prevent accumulation of odor and foul-tasting bacteria.\* Intended for use with potable water, ICX remains active in the system for at least two weeks.

To optimize the quality of your dental unit water, be sure to use a fresh ICX tablet and follow these steps every time you refill a self-contained water bottle:

1. Empty any remaining water left in the bottle.
2. Drop the tablet into an empty dental unit water bottle (0.7L tablet in 0.7 liter bottle, 2L tablet in 2 liter). Avoid touching the tablet with skin.
3. Fill the bottle with water, then install it on the dental unit.
4. Wait two minutes for the tablet to fully dissolve before using the system.

Be sure to use ICX in conjunction with regular dental unit water monitoring and shock treatment.

\* Maintains dental unit waterline effluent  $\leq 10$  CFU/ml.



## MONITOR the Water Quality

It's important to regularly monitor the water in your dental equipment. The frequency depends on your test results and water quality goals. Initially, test once per month. If monthly results pass your clinic's water quality goal for all treatment rooms for three successive months, reduce the testing frequency to once every three months.

Water quality should be monitored by performing a test that provides a quantitative measurement of heterotrophic bacteria. Call your A-dec dealer for information about in-office water monitoring test kits or water quality testing services.

Follow these procedures:

1. Replace air/water syringe tips and remove handpieces, detachable motors and couplers, and ultrasonic instruments. Wipe waterline outlets (syringe tips, handpiece tubing terminals, etc.) with a disinfectant wipe to avoid external contaminants.
2. Unless otherwise directed, a composite sample for an individual dental unit may be collected by combining approximately equal amounts of water from each tubing (e.g., if there are two handpiece tubings and two air/water syringes, collect approximately one-fourth of the water sample from each tubing).
3. Follow the water monitoring test kit instructions for handling, storing, and processing the sample.

The results obtained from this monitoring procedure will provide an indication of the dental unit water quality in each treatment room and what action to take next—continue maintaining with ICX or implement a shock treatment.

Guidelines or requirements for dental unit water quality vary by region and are usually specified in colony forming units per milliliter (CFU/ml). The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guideline is  $\leq 500$  CFU/ml.

## SHOCK the Waterlines

A-dec recommends an action level based on the quality guidelines in your region. If guidelines are not available, A-dec recommends 500 CFU/ml as an action level. If test results are greater than the action level, perform the shock treatment. Otherwise, continue daily waterline maintenance with ICX.

Shock treatment clears organic deposits and bacterial contamination from dental unit waterlines. A-dec recommends that you perform a shock treatment on the dental unit waterlines before you first use the system. After first use, shock the waterlines whenever test results exceed water quality action level.

Use a dental unit waterline shock treatment product registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). If you're located outside the U.S., contact your authorized A-dec dealer for product recommendations. Whenever applying a shock treatment, be sure to adhere to the product's instructions for use.

After completing the shock treatment—including flushing with water—resume your waterline maintenance protocol with ICX.



**a-dec®**

