

Cooke Optics Limited Lens Disinfecting Procedures

We recommend the use of 70 percent isopropyl alcohol (as opposed to 99 percent) as it is diluted with approximately 30 percent water which allows it to linger longer than 99 percent (which would evaporate too quickly), thus allowing more time to kill the virus. You can purchase pre-made 70 percent or use 99 percent if you already have, and dilute with water in spray bottles.

We spray down cases and cardboard boxes and allow it to dry which can take a few minutes. They can be wiped down with saturated cloths as well.

For lenses, you can use 100 percent polyester cloths (or similar) and spray the solution onto the cloth and then wipe down the lens mechanical body and front and rear caps. We do not directly spray the solution onto any lens, only the wiping cloth. The front and rear elements are not typically cleaned in this protocol. Element cleaning can be done when necessary, however, if you are required to clean the glass whilst on set, we recommend the use of an alcohol based optical cleaning solution. Please verify the alcohol level (70%) for proper effectiveness. If you are looking for an example wiper to use for cleaning the lenses, cameras and other equipment, the Hansong (Korea) Ultima II 100 percent knitted polyester cleanroom wiper 9" x 9" size works well. They last and can even be used on glass for a one time use.

We are still researching the use of industrial UV light to sanitize equipment. It can be quite costly and there are safeguards needed when in use. The first and foremost method of cleaning recommended would still be the manual application of the 70 percent isopropyl alcohol solution. The use of UV light equipment requires training on the proper and effective use and it may certainly be useful as a back-up method and would be safe to use on lens mechanical housings.

Alcohol based solutions are highly flammable and can be ignited by static electricity. Always allow sufficient time for solution to dry completely before touching.

The above advice is our method and we believe it is effective and so is provided to help those in our industry but we can accept no liability for its efficacy when used by others.

Cooke Optics Limited

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