

SANITIZING OF DRUM TYPE ICE MAKERS

Some food grade applications of North Star drum type ice makers such as in the Baking, Sausage and Poultry Industries require frequent sanitization of the ice maker. Only stainless Steel Ice makers should be purchased and depending on the application, the Elite or Plus models may be the most suitable. This will ensure that all water path components and contact are either stainless steel, bronze or plastic. The use of standard ice makers with a stainless steel or a carbon steel freezing surface which have a galvanized water pan, metal sprayed rotor and aluminum water ring and drip shield support arms as standard components is not recommended for applications in these industries.

Due to the low evaporating temperature and rapid flow of water in North Star ice makers, slime and bacterial build up is not usually a problem. However, some plants will have sanitation requirements that require a regular sanitizing treatment of the ice maker. The use of a typical sanitizing solution according to the instructions on the container is normally sufficient to meet the sanitation requirements in most plants.

North Star does not recommend the use of chlorinated alkaline cleaners, chlorinated caustic cleaners or cleaners with very high (alkaline) or very low (acidic) pH levels. Chlorine sanitizers are corrosive to most metals including stainless steel. Quaternary ammonium compounds (QUATS) are effective sanitizers; the FDA has approved QUATS for food processing equipment and they are non-corrosive.

North Star recommends that all sanitizers be used according to the manufacturer's instructions and be researched with the manufacturer to ensure they are not corrosive to stainless steel when properly used.

- Sanitize the ice making surfaces per year with the USDA approved plant sanitizing agent.
- Replace the water in the sump basin with fresh water on a regular basis.
- Clean/wipe the inside and outside of the transition chutes with the USDA approved sanitation agent on a regular basis.