



# TECH TIPS

a technical bulletin by the experts at Gaco Western

## Keep it Cool...




**It's getting hot out there, so keeping yourself, your team and your spray chemicals cool is imperative. Although there are steps to take that allow for spraying foam through the heat of the day without worrying about dehydration or your spray chemicals getting too hot, this is the time of year where it can make sense to get up earlier and beat the sun to the jobsite.**

Being fresh and unburdened by the heat of the sun can maximize your productivity and help get the job done quicker. Working through the heat of the day can lead to less productivity, requiring more breaks and cooling down time. When it is not possible to avoid the increasing heat, **keeping yourself and your team cool during a job** is an important factor.

- **Make sure you rotate team members frequently to keep them fresh.**
- **A lightweight coverall suit is preferred where heat stress may be a concern.**
- **Sprayers who have a cooled supplied air system for their mask or hood last a lot longer than those that do not.**
- **There are different types of rechargeable cooling vests available on the market that can be worn under your spray suits.**

**You also need to be very conscious of the drum temperatures on your spray rig.** Some contractors who spray a lot of closed cell product with temperature-sensitive blowing agents have insulated trailers and an A/C system ready to go. If your rig is not equipped to keep the chemicals cool, make sure you are prepared with a fan for venting and possibly bags of ice to keep a drum cool.



Failure to keep them cool can result in the frothing of a drum, which is when the gas blowing agent gets too hot and it needs to escape. If the drum is capped, the heated gas will create pressure causing it to distend or bow upwards. Uncapping drums in this state is dangerous so take all the proper precautions before reopening. (Cool it down, wear proper PPE, open it slowly and allow any pressure to release before removing cap.) 

**Hydration is another key factor – water, water, and more water.** A cooler full of ice water is a friend indeed. Keep consumption of energy drinks and caffeinated sodas to a minimum as they can cause dehydration. Also consider taking electrolyte tablets as directed by the manufacturer. These will help maintain your electrolyte balance to keep you from cramping and feeling faint. Drinking water alone will not restore electrolytes lost as you sweat.

**Having trouble with foam? Just pick up the phone!**

Gaco Western's Tech Hotline: **855 639 4649**

8am - 8pm CST, Mon-Sun

**Ideas, suggestions or questions?**

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