

 <b>West Lothian Council</b>	<b>Environmental Health</b>		<b>SUBJECT:</b> CLEANING CHEMICALS
	4	Food Safety/Food Hygiene	<b>NUMBER:</b> FH06
<b>Revised:</b> 24/12/2007		Health & Safety	
		Public Health	<b>KEYWORDS:</b> CLEANING CHEMICALS
<b>STATUS:</b> TRADE ADVICE		Pollution Control	
		Pest Control/Dog Warden	

## Information Sheet FH06

### Cleaning Chemicals

Keeping all parts of a food business clean and washing dirty dishes and equipment, have always been one of the most important and most unpopular parts of the job.

The reason for cleaning is not just to make things look nice but also to get rid of the germs, which live in grime, germs which can cause food poisoning.

Because it is so important, proper cleaning is a legal requirement in all food businesses.

Neglecting cleaning can lead to illness for your customers if food becomes contaminated and possibly to legal action – including prosecution and heavy fines – for the business. In some cases businesses have been closed down.

But cleaning can be difficult and unpleasant. Anything which makes it easier and more effective is a good idea and that is why your choice of cleaning chemicals is so important.

Ordinary detergents remove fresh grease and dirt – but they are not good at killing germs or lifting heavy soiling. These require special chemicals which are made for the job.

We recommend that you look for the following types of product when selecting your cleaning chemicals. Particular cleaning jobs may need a particular type of chemical.

1. Bactericidal Detergent (or sanitising detergent or germicidal detergent)

This is a combined detergent and disinfectant, so it cleans and kills germs in one go. Some types are for general cleaning, some for pot washing, and some will do both.

2. Degreaser/Grease Cutter

A stronger cleaner designed to lift heavier soiling and greasy build up. Care is needed in using them, but they can cut the time and effort needed to carry out a deep clean.

3. Carbon Stripper

Specifically made to dissolve burned on carbon from cookers, pans etc.

4. Bactericidal Handwash

Gets hands clean and kills germs. Usually supplied as a liquid in a dispenser. Far more effective than a bar of soap.

These are all available as industrial strength chemicals from specialist suppliers. Used properly they are more effective than domestic products and are often more economical as well.

For more detailed advice contact any of the suppliers listed below, or talk to your local Environmental Health Officer. Other suppliers may also operate in your area and the list below is not intended to be a particular recommendation.

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Tel / Fax</b>	<b>E-mail / web site</b>
AIC (Apex Industrial Chemicals)	Aberdeen (with local agent Ian Grant)	01224 878420 (Tel)	sales@apex-chemicals.co.uk www.apex-chemicals.co.uk
AJS Services	3 Grange Road Houstoun Industrial Estate Livingston EH54 5DE	01506 433719	
Arco East Scotland	Avon Mill Industrial Estate, Mill Road Linlithgowbridge Linlithgow	01506 844661	Linlithgow.branch@arco.co.uk
Baggit Ltd	Unit 20, Society Place, West Calder, West Lothian. EH55 8EA	01506 414689	billbaggit@blueyonder.co.uk
Custom Chemicals	50-56 Belhaven Road Wishaw ML2 7NX	01506 375914	
DBM Industrial Supplies	Clifton View, East Mains Industrial Estate, Broxburn, EH52 5NE	01506 859560	sales@dbmlimited.demon.co.uk
Bunzl ICCS MacGregor	13-17 Abbotsinch Road, Grangemouth, FK3 9UX	01324 495495	
Scottish Disposable Supplies	Block 8 Whitehill Industrial Estate, Bathgate West Lothian EH48 2RX	01506 636040	www.sdsonline.co.uk
Trichem Scotland	2d Inchmuir Road, Whitehill Industrial Estate, Bathgate	01506 634477	
Unico Limited	North Main Street Carronshore Falkirk FK2 8HZ	01324 573410	

### **Safety Note**

Specific safety laws cover the safe use of many cleaning chemicals. Always read and follow any instructions. Ask your supplier for information to comply with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH).