

The
Tower**TOWER**

"News From the Floor Care Industry."

Letter

Which Propane Engine is Right for You?

KOHLER.
engines

The propane buffer market has changed dramatically in the last few years. As everyone knows The Kohler Company decided to cease supplying engines to the floor buffer market a few years ago. However they have continued to honor their two year engine warranty. Their "Command" series engine is widely used in other markets such as riding lawn mowers and generators and is expected to be in production for many years to come. Therefore if you have Kohler engines on your buffers, warranty and parts will always be readily available from your local Kohler dealer or Tower Industries.



Recently Briggs & Stratton has ceased supplying engines to the indoor floor buffer market as well. This is unfortunate since their "Vanguard" series of engines are some of the best on the market. They will continue to honor their two year engine warranty and their one year valve train warranty. As with Kohler engines, the Vanguard series of engines is widely used in other markets so parts and service will always be available in the future.

HONDA
ENGINES

Tower Industries has decided to continue offering Honda Engines on it's Pro Line floor buffers. American Honda has proven to be committed to our industry, being the leader for many years in the floor buffer market. They currently offer the GXV340 (11hp), GXV390 (13hp), GXV610 V-Twin (18 hp), and GXV620 V-Twin (20 hp) engines propane ready and EPA/CARB approved. Honda also has an excellent network of authorized dealers across the country to care for future needs whether it be warranty or service parts. They have succeeded in offering a superior engine at a reasonable cost by avoiding problem prone closed loop, computer controlled devices such as those offered on the Kohler Command and Onan engines.

"American Honda has proven to be committed to our industry..."

We currently have some Briggs & Stratton Vanguard 16hp single cylinder and V-Twins left in stock. These engines were manufactured before the current EPA/CARB regulations went into effect and are therefore approved for use on floor buffers. They are propane ready, tamper proof and ready to install. The fuel system is similar to Honda engines.

If you have Kohler or Briggs & Stratton engines on your propane buffers you are fortunate! Keep them! They are not by any means obsolete and have proven to be excellent performers. Look for an article in a future "Tower Letter" on the current EPA/CARB standards.

The War On Germs - Choosing the Right Disinfectant

When it comes to choosing a disinfectant cleaner there is no end to the choices we are bombarded with. Perhaps the following information will aid you in understanding disinfectant properties.

“We primarily encourage the use of quaternary disinfectants.”

Four of the most popular disinfectants are: quaternary compounds (quats), iodophors (iodine), chlorine compounds (bleach) and phenolics. Each type has different properties and uses that dictate the best fit for a specific application.

Although a variety of disinfectants are available we primarily encourage the use of quaternary disinfectants. They offer the widest range of application, are user-friendly when compared to other disinfectants, and make excellent cleaners. For all-purpose cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing they are clearly the best choice.

	Quats	Chlorine	Iodine	Phenol
Affected by pH	No	Some	Yes	Yes
Corrosive to Equipment	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Unpleasant Odor	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Skin Irritant at Use-Dilution	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cleaning Ability	Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Organic Soil Tolerance	Good	Poor	Poor	Poor
Hard Water Tolerance	Good	Good	Good	Good

How Quats Work

Quaternary biocides are used in a number products such as disinfectants, algaecides, sanitizers and fungicides to kill or control the growth of undesirable organisms. In their purest form, quaternary biocides are nothing more than cationic surfactants (surface active agents) that carry a positive charge. Bacteria, viruses and fungi carry a negative charge due to the presence of amino, carboxyl or phosphate groups on their surface. Therefore, when a disinfectant is applied to a bacteria-laden surface the charge distribution of the bacteria cell surface changes from negative to positive resulting in disruption of the cell wall, causing the organism to die.

Most disinfectants, including chlorine bleach, iodine, phenol and quats will harm floor finish and must never be used on floors that have been finished. However we offer a neutral pH quaternary cleaner that is safe to use on floor finish, is an excellent cleaner and maintains the same disinfecting properties of standard quats.

There are three important factors that influence efficacy when disinfecting a surface:

Dilution Rate: Proper dilution allows enough quat to saturate the surface being disinfected. Dilution control devices ensure that the proper dilution is used.

Contact Time: Contact time is critical since the mechanism explained above does not occur instantaneously. Cell walls take time to break down. This is why disinfectant labels list ten minutes as the desirable contact time.

Soil Load: Heavily soiled surfaces should be precleaned prior to disinfection since disinfectant can't tell the difference between bacteria and soil. This "competition" for quat between soil and bacteria reduces efficacy.

In today's environment where the public is more aware of sanitation, liability for infection is high and people just want a more sanitary facility, quats may be the answer for you.

"Most disinfectants, including chlorine bleach... will harm floor finish and must never be used on floors that have been finished."

Biocide Terms

Sterilization	Leave an object or surface free of all life forms.
Disinfection	The removal or destruction of pathogens from inanimate objects. Nonpathogenic environmental organisms may not be completely eliminated through disinfection.
Antiseptic	A "disinfectant" treatment applied to the skin.
Sanitizing	The cleansing of inanimate objects to reduce the microbial count to a safe level.
-cidal	The suffix used to designate a killing treatment. The word's prefix indicates the type of organism affected, such as bacteriocidal or fungicidal.
-static	The suffix used to designate inhibitory treatments, such as bacteriostatic or fungistatic.

Address Correction Requested

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Tower Industries, Inc.



Classified Ads

Autoscrubber - 32" Hako \$2,500 Like brand new, incl batt. charger Chuck Babb (425) 338-7133 (425) 338-9524	Autoscrubber - 38" Advance \$1500 obo Good batt., fair condition (runs better than it looks), incl. charger, pad drivers & squeegee all good. Autoscrubber - 17" \$600 obo Good batteries, fair condition, same as above. Call Ron (360) 653-6697
Reconditioned autoscrubbers, floor machines, burnishers, carpet extractors & vacuums Snow King Service & Supply (425) 774-8066	Extractor - Windsor Clipper \$900 Autoscrubber - Advance 26B \$850 New pad drivers & squeegee assembly, works great. Will trade for small autoscrubber. David P. McKittrick Toll Free (800) 366-4554
Scrubber/Burnisher - 20" Tenant Trend \$500 includes batteries Autoscrubber - 20" Advance, incl. batt. \$1,000 Autoscrubber - 20" Nobles, incl. batt. \$1,500 Propane Buffer - 27" Eagle \$2,000 Kohler 14hp, 400 hours Propane Buffer - 20" Floor Blazer \$1,200 Honda 11hp w/tank Jeff Cameron (425) 235-0648	Autoscrubber - 26" Kent \$2,800 Includes charger, pad holders, brushes & batteries. Earl Logan (253) 922-0525
Autoscrubber - 26" Tenant Trend \$400 Works, needs batteries. Greg (360) 479-5847	Ramp \$375 obo Custom made for cargo van. Great for full size autoscrubbers & buffers or whatever you need it for! (253) 535-9571 Ask for Rick or leave a message.