

MILITARY TECHNICAL BULLETIN

SUBJECT: Disinfecting Procedure for the PHODS Face Mask

- **Affected Units: All PHODS Face Masks in service**
- **Problem: Lack of disinfecting procedures**

SITUATION

It has come to Aqua Lung's attention that there is some question about the procedures for disinfecting the PHODS Face Mask after use. The following procedure is designed to disinfect and prevent fungal growth in the interior and exterior of the face mask. This Technical Bulletin is to clarify this procedure and provide advance notice on the cleaning procedure. As always, local command directives take precedence over manufacturers recommendations.

Background:

The PHODS System was procured and issued without the PHODS FACE MASK. As such these disinfecting procedures were not included in the current PHODS Technical Manual.

Summary:

The following cleaning and disinfecting procedures are approved by the mask manufacturer, Gentex, and by Aqua Lung America. This Technical Bulletin is provided as an addendum notice to the current manual. These instructions will be included in the next revision of the PHODS Technical Manual.



WARNING - Disinfect oxygen mask after each use to avoid bacteriological contamination and to ensure maximum cleanliness.

- a. Use gauze pads or other lint-free wipes moistened with 70% isopropyl alcohol to disinfect.
- b. Disinfect the outside and inside of the oxygen mask. Be sure the disinfectant reaches all the areas that will come into contact with or be in the immediate area of the face.
- c. Wipe surfaces until dry or allow to air dry.
- d. Ensure that the mask is fully dry before placing into storage bag and container and returning to the aircrew member.

If you have any questions, please contact our Military Product Manager at 877-253-DIVE or 760-597-5048 or rbedard@aqualung.com. Your cooperation is much appreciated.