Cleaning Your Code Disk

Technical Bulletin

BEI PSSC code disks constructed of chrome-plated glass can be cleaned using industry standard techniques for cleaning optical components. BEI PSSC recommends the following materials and procedures for cleaning code disks:

Materials

Pressurized gas (dry filtered nitrogen or canned dusting gas)

Powder-free latex or nitrile gloves or finger cots

Reagent grade organic solvent (methanol or acetone) or lens cleaning solution

Lint-free wipe (lens tissue, soft cotton, or synthetic wipe) or lint-free cotton or synthetic swabs

Bright light

10-30X inspection microscope (optional)

Procedure

Before cleaning the code disk, put on gloves and clean them with a wipe and solvent to remove contaminants and finger oils from the exterior of the gloves.

A bright light is required for proper illumination of the code disk during cleaning. A 10-30X inspection microscope is helpful, but not required.

Dust and particulates are the most common code disk contaminants and are best removed by blowing them off the code disk with dry filtered nitrogen or canned dusting gas.

Clean the code disk with lint-free wipes or swabs and organic solvent. Acetone is most effective for stubborn contaminants, but tends to leave streaks. Methanol is the easiest solvent with which to obtain a streak-free disk.

When using lens tissue or cloth, fold the wipe 2-3 times and wet the final fold with solvent or lens cleaning solution. Hold the wipe near the fold and wipe the wet fold across the code disk from the ID to OD. The wipe can be turned over or refolded for further use. Do not reuse the same section of the wipe, as this will re-deposit removed contaminants. Repeat as needed.

When using swabs, wet the swab with solvent and swab the disk from ID to OD. Both sides of the swab can be used, but do not reuse the same section of the swab, as this will re-deposit removed contaminants. Repeat as needed

Approved for general release

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