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## TECH TIPS

a technical bulletin by the experts at Gaco Western

# *Having problems with Gun Filters clogging all the time?*


There are two types of filters on spray rigs that we need to check on a weekly basis - the filters in the “Y” strainer (A and B) and the filters in your gun around the check valve (A and B). As chemical runs through these filters, contaminants can be collected and throw ratios off, affect foam performance and potentially ruin some of our equipment. If this scenario is occurring regularly, it is most likely caused from your equipment sitting stagnant and not being circulated. Excellent maintenance and daily usage will prevent this issue.

In addition to the two filters mentioned above, we suggest installing an inline filter system on the ISO/A-side. This easy-to-install inline filter system captures crystalized buildup that is formed from daily use and bending of the hose. It consists of an airless paint sprayer filter with a metal screen that catches all the particles that can create many problems throughout the day. You will need to check this filter and clean as often as needed, just like the other filters. When it comes to hose replacement, this solution will save you money in the long run. If you were to buy all new hoses it would cost around \$10,000 depending on the hose length vs an inline filter is just under \$400.

If you still are experiencing a lot of material coming through the line and the machine hasn't been idle for a long period of time, or you know it's not a hose issue, then it's probably a “Y” strainer filter issue. They do clog up and can burst if not checked regularly, allowing debris to flow towards the gun filters. Graco machines are sold from the factory with a 20 mesh screen in them. We recommend replacing with an 80 mesh screen. Traditionally guns are sold with 80 mesh screens, which are very fine and will catch almost everything, so let's stop it at the “Y” strainer filter and not let it mess up our day or equipment.

Remember, these are easy, basic filters which we need to keep an eye on. They not only keep harmful debris out of our system and reduce wear and tear on our equipment and parts, but also keep our chemical on ratio when kept properly cleaned. So keep your eyes on the foam - and clean your filters.

As always, it is important to follow the directions and instructions provided with each product that you are using.

If you have any tips that you would like to share for future Gaco Western Tech Tips, you can forward them to [techtips@gaco.com](mailto:techtips@gaco.com) 



### **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?**

[techtips@gaco.com](mailto:techtips@gaco.com)