

LOW BLEACH ODOR? – Some insight on “PURITY”

Household Sodium Hypochlorite (Chlorine) Bleach has been used for generations – for both cleaning and for disinfection in all sorts of applications from general mopping of the floors to hospital disinfection. Today, EPA registered Chlorine Bleaches are some of the cheapest and most efficient disinfectants in the market. One of the telltale characteristics of this product **is the typical smell of chlorine** which we will discuss. “The Odor of Bleach” and its relation to product Purity is a key physical characteristic outlined here.

Different Grades

Today there are many various grades of Bleach in the marketplace – **Retail**: Both higher grade Germicidal formulas as well as LOWER STRENGTH ECONOMY GRADES), **Institutional**: Germicidal as well as low end Opening Price Point (OPP) cleaning bleach. “Bleach is not simply Bleach” anymore and its highly probable that in today’s marketplace, low strength bleach (LSB’s) are offered **alongside** stronger bleaches **without** the end user/consumer even knowing. Please read the label to know what type of formula you are buying.

Computerization and Filtration

In “Household Bleach Manufacturing” there have been substantial advances in the technology of manufacturing, specifically in the area of filtration and purification of the final product. What drove this technology was the need to “seal the bottle” and cut down on the consumer complaints on leakage from the top of the bottle (loose caps, etc.). To do that you HAVE to make the product more pure since the aging process gives off Oxygen and in a tight sealed bottle – the bottle bloats a bit.

Computerized manufacturing/monitoring of the base solution offers precise management of raw material, control of the reaction parameter and large volume output of consistent product. As KIK implemented this new control/monitoring/processing/filtration processes we noticed that changes in the physical characteristics of the Bleach itself were taking place. Lower smell, color, clarity and, most importantly, extended product life. This new process is so much more precise than any older process and relies specifically on **The Powell Filtration Process**. This Powell Filtration Process is utilized today in ALL KIK facilities today removing the smallest mineral particulate (the culprit leading to product degradation).

The breakdown of Bleach is what give bleach its smell. For this reason we look at this characteristic as a benchmark in our processing.

So regardless of the percentage of sodium hypochlorite (either Germicidal grade or Low Strength Cleaning Bleach) the **purity** of that product will reduce the amount of that “chlorine smell” that was typical of products from the past.

Real life Test

One thing to notice... When your spray properly diluted bleach solution on a surface where there is food/protein/organic matter of any sort (dirt) – you introduce contaminants to the bleach...and there is a more prominent chlorine “bloom” as the product “activates and cleans” **This is when the bleach really gives off the “Odor” and you know it is working.**