

How to Sanitize an Ice Machine: Descaling and Sanitizing the Elevation Series Ice Machine

This standard operating procedure explains how to sanitize an ice machine in the Elevation Series line, covering both the descaling and sanitizing cycles. Following these steps ensures the machine is properly cleaned, disinfected, and returned to normal ice production safely and effectively.

Purpose

This SOP provides step-by-step instructions for descaling and sanitizing the Elevation Series ice machine, including preparation, chemical application, cycle completion, and machine reassembly.

Scope

This procedure applies to routine maintenance of the Ice-O-Matic Elevation Series ice machine and covers both the descaling cycle and the sanitizing cycle performed in sequence.

Required equipment and PPE

Before you begin, gather the following:

- IMS-II descaling solution
- Nickel-Safe Ice Machine Cleaner (sanitizing solution)
- Phillips head screwdriver
- Personal protective equipment, including gloves and safety glasses
- A clean rag for wiping down surfaces

Confirm the machine is in OFF mode before starting any work.



Title screen showing "De-Scaling and Sanitizing," "THE ELEVATION SERIES," and an image of the Ice-O-Matic Elevation Series ice machine.

Step-by-step procedure

Step 1: Remove the front panel

Use a Phillips head screwdriver to remove the front panel of the machine to gain internal access. Place the removed panel in a safe location where it will not be damaged or misplaced.



Technician in blue shirt and safety glasses facing the Ice-O-Matic machine, with bottles of IMS-II and Nickel-Safe cleaner visible nearby.

Step 2: Start the cleaning cycle

Press the Clean button on the machine to begin the descaling and sanitizing process. Remove the top cover and splash guard to access the curtain and water reservoir.



Technician pressing the clean button inside the open machine.

Step 3: Add the descaling solution

Wait for water to start circulating inside the machine. Add the descaling solution to the sump according to the manufacturer's instructions, referring to the solution bottle for exact measurements.



Technician pouring green descaling solution from a measuring cup into the sump.

Step 4: Reinstall the splash guard and top cover

Reinstall the splash guard and top cover to minimize splashing and conserve chemicals. Ensure both components are securely in place before proceeding.



Technician reinstalling the splash guard and top cover.

Step 5: Allow the descaling cycle to complete

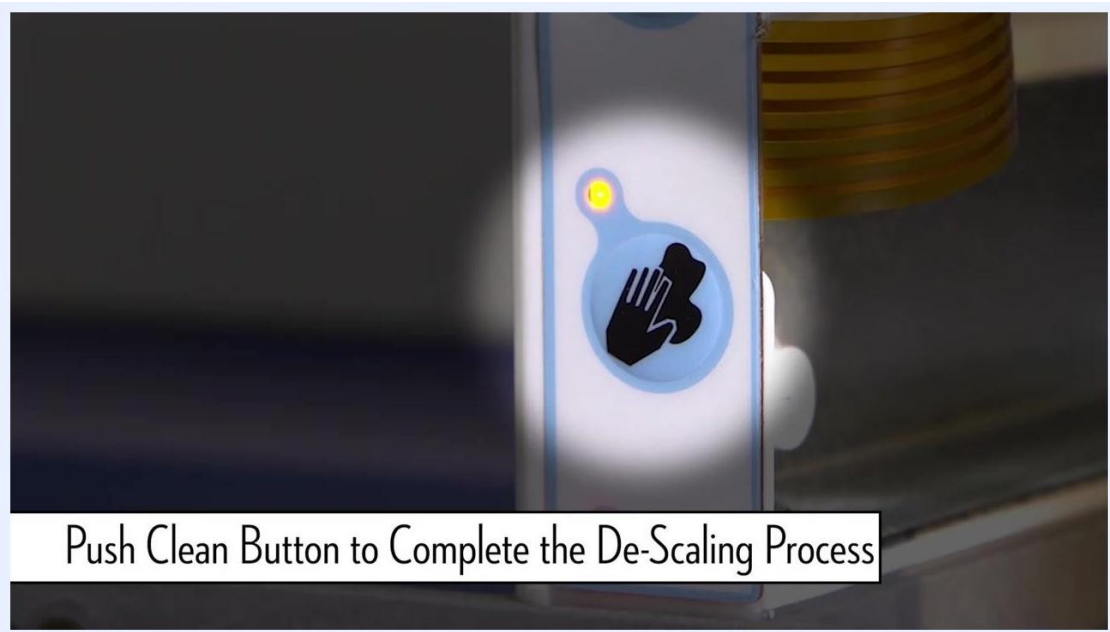
The descaling process takes approximately 25 minutes. The machine will automatically shut off when the cycle is complete, indicated by a solid red LED and a solid yellow LED.

Step 6: Finish the descaling process

Once the cycle is complete, push the Clean button again to end the descaling process.



Technician pressing the clean button to complete the descaling process.



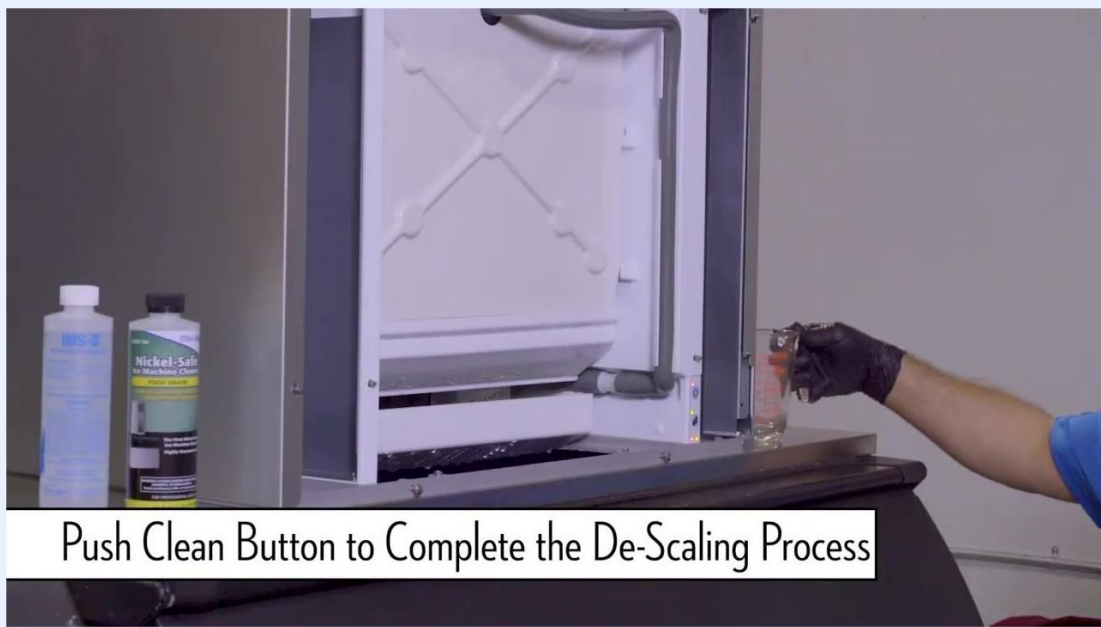
Close-up of the clean button with a yellow indicator light illuminated.

Step 7: Prepare for sanitizing

After descaling, begin the sanitizing process with the machine in the red OFF state. Repeat the previous steps of removing covers and pressing Clean, but this time add the Nickel-Safe sanitizing solution to the sump instead of the descaling solution.



Note: Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for the correct type and amount of cleaning and sanitizing solutions. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment throughout the process.



Technician removing the top cover again in preparation for the sanitizing process.

Step 8: Wipe down surrounding areas

After completing both the descaling and sanitizing cycles, use a clean rag to thoroughly wipe down all surrounding surfaces of the ice machine. Ensure any spilled cleaning or sanitizing solution is removed from the exterior and accessible interior surfaces. Dispose of the rag or launder it according to your facility's cleaning protocols.



Technician in blue shirt and gloves, wearing safety glasses, wiping down the open ice machine. Bottles of IMS-II and Nickel-Safe cleaner are visible, with the front panel open and a measuring cup nearby.

Step 9: Return the machine to freeze mode

Locate the power button on the machine's control panel. Press the power button to switch the machine from OFF or cleaning mode back to freeze mode. Confirm that the machine begins its normal ice-making operation.



Close-up of the control panel showing the power button, with on-screen text reading "Return to Freeze Mode by Pressing Power Button."

Step 10: Reinstall the front panel

Carefully align and reinstall the front panel onto the machine. Secure the panel using the Phillips head screwdriver, ensuring all screws are tightened and the panel is flush with the machine body.



Technician in blue shirt and gloves reinstalling the front panel of the Ice-O-Matic Elevation Series machine, with cleaning solution bottles visible nearby.

Verification and final checks

Complete the following checks to confirm the machine has been properly sanitized and restored to service:

- Double-check that all covers and panels are securely in place.
- Verify that the machine is operating in freeze mode and producing ice as expected.

- Clean up your work area and store all cleaning supplies and tools.



Technician finishing the reinstallation of the front panel of the Elevation Series machine.



Note: Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for the correct type and amount of cleaning and sanitizing solutions. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment throughout the process. For further information or troubleshooting, visit .