

Filter Sand Cleaning



Overview

Over time it was thought that filter sand became rounded and the filters became contaminated with body fats. This would reduce filter efficiency and water clarity. High combined chlorine with the associated odours will also be a symptom of poor filtration. **“It was therefore recommended that filter sand should be changed or skimmed at least every year”.** **This is no longer the case.** Filter sand does not wear out, Silica sand is extraordinarily hard and will withstand years of agitation in a pool filter vessel. The sand can also now be cleaned effectively and economically using Toplines cleaning system with our own chemical formula “SILICA WASH”.

Topline took samples of sand 10 years old, this sand after cleaning was placed under a digital microscope and compared with new sand.

DATA SHEET



New Sand



Cleaned Sand

It can be seen from the comparison of the two samples that there is no visible rounding of the sand. This test was repeated on several samples from different filters with similar results. It can therefore be concluded that **sand does not age. This being the case sand does not need changing just cleaning.**



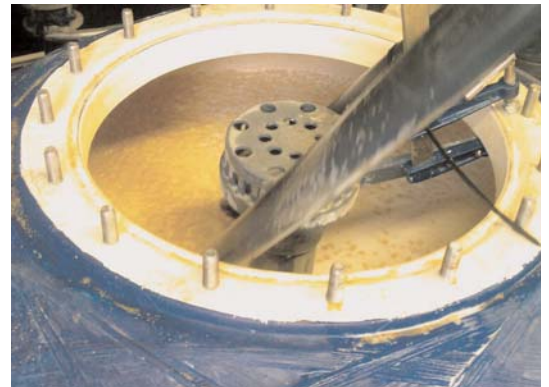
In order to maintain the highest standards, TOPLINE reserves the right to alter specifications without notice. 01-12-08

Cleaning Process

To clean the sand, the filter is isolated from the filtration system. The lid can then be removed and the filter filled with water. The “Silica Wash” is added to the filter and the filter sand agitated using a high capacity pressure pump.



During the agitation process the body fats are lifted from the sand, this can clearly be seen on the below picture.



The filter lid is then re-attached, the filter backwashed and rinsed and the filter put back into service, the waste material is no different from a concentrated backwash.

Filters treated in this way are put back in to service having had the majority of the body fats removed and should not need treating any more frequently than the normal recommended sand change frequency. In addition not only is the sand cleaned but the filter vessel itself is degreased, this is something that a simple sand change will not do.

Costs

When compared with the cost of replacing sand the Topline system is typically 50% cheaper and will provide a quick and effective method to meet a companies obligations to the user of swimming pools and spas.

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