

PIG Aerosol Four-Can Recycler

Maintenance/Cleaning

Tools Needed:

- 3/16" Allen wrench (ball end wrench recommended)
- 9/64" Allen wrench (ball end wrench recommended)
- 7/16" wrench

Fully Remove Cover

1. Disengage and lower ratchet clamp arm on right side of puncturing unit.
2. Remove threaded bolt from top of swing arm and unlock cam-lever clamp on left side of puncturing unit. **(fig. A)**
3. Slide cover completely off puncturing unit. **(fig. B)**

Remove Can Seat Assembly

1. Using 3/16" Allen wrench, remove four bolts from can seat assembly. **(fig. C)**
2. To lift can seat assembly out of base, use 9/64" wrench to tighten the lifting pins. Tightening pins will push can seat assembly out of puncturing base. **(fig. D)**
3. Remove gasket from bottom of can seat assembly and remove gasket from top of puncturing unit base.
4. If needed, use 7/16" wrench to remove puncture pins from can seat assembly. **(fig. E)**
5. Scrape off any residue from the inside of the base of puncturing unit, underneath side of can seat assembly and from the puncturing pins. A solvent can be used as needed.

Reinstall Can Seat Assembly

1. If removed, use 7/16" wrench to reattach puncture pins from can seat assembly.
2. Place gasket around the inside ledge near the top of the puncturing base. Be sure to line up the holes in the gasket with the bolt hole. **(fig. F)**
3. Replace gasket around the bottom of the can seat assembly.
4. Using the 9/64" Allen wrench, loosen the lifting pins to reinstall the can seat assembly. Note: do not completely remove the lifting pins. **(fig. D)**
5. Use 3/16" Allen wrench to thread the bolts to secure the can seat assembly.
6. Slide cover back on to swing arm; replace threaded bolt and lock cam-lever clamp.
7. Raise ratchet clamp arm until it contacts cover and pull lever to tighten. Do not overtighten the ratchet clamp. Three clicks only.



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Frequently Asked Questions

Are empty aerosol cans hazardous waste?

The propellant used in aerosol cans causes cans to react (explode) if subjected to high heat or pressure. Because of this, it meets EPA's definition of "reactivity" [40 CFR 261.23] making aerosol cans a characteristic hazardous waste. Some liquids commonly supplied in aerosol cans may also be listed or characteristic hazards.

What kind of container do I need to connect to the recycling unit?

The Aerosol 4-Can Recycler should be used on a 55-gallon closed-head steel drum that's in good condition. Plastic drums should not be used with the recycling unit.

Does the unit need to be grounded?

Because many propellants and liquids in aerosol cans are flammable, the antistatic wire helps to promote safe use of the product by draining unsafe static charges that may accumulate, meeting OSHA's requirement for containers to be grounded and bonded during transfers of flammable liquids.

How long do the filters last?

The lifespan of the combination coalescing/carbon filter is about three months.

Are the filters hazardous after use?

Due to the variety of chemicals used in aerosol cans, some of which are hazardous, fully saturated carbon filters should be considered hazardous waste unless independently tested to the EPA's guidelines and proven non-hazardous. Please dispose of in accordance to local, state and federal laws and check with authorities having jurisdiction.

Can I puncture all of my aerosol cans with the same unit?

Many facilities can commingle their aerosol can waste. However, it is best to check the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for each product that will be punctured to ensure that the liquids in the cans are compatible. For example, corrosive liquids should not be commingled with pesticides.

How long does it take to puncture a can?

It takes about 20 seconds to depressurize and drain an aerosol can.

Does puncturing cans pressurize the collection drum?

No. The filter automatically vents at 3 psi to prevent unsafe pressure from accumulating in the drum.

How much does an empty aerosol can weigh?

Four standard-sized, punctured aerosol cans weigh about 1 lb.

How can I minimize the chance of fugitive emissions?

The filtering media captures a majority of the emissions from the recycling unit. However, some vapors may be emitted through the puncturing unit. To minimize this potential, just leave a punctured can in the chamber to seal off this opening.

How long does it take to fill a drum with liquids from aerosol cans?

A 55-gallon drum will accommodate the liquid from up to 4,200 drained cans.

Will I need an air permit to use the aerosol can recycling system?

Air permits are only needed if you are exhausting 15 or more pounds of propellant per day. As a reference, in a full aerosol can, propellants account for about 15% of the total weight of the can.

Will I need a hazardous waste treatment permit to use this system?

Under OSWER Directive 9432.01(80), puncturing cans does not constitute treatment at the federal level. (Some state regulations supersede this requirement.)