Form Wash: Washing Prints Using TPM

Last revised 2025.05.21, by Alexander Lefort

# Purpose

The CSE2 G15 Fabrication Research Lab Form Wash station is filled with Tripropylene glygol monomethyl ether (TPM) rather than Isopropanol. This chemical is much less hazardous than Isopropanol, but you must still abide by the same Form 3 SOP safety precautions and PPE requirements (splash goggles, nitrile gloves, lab coat). The chemical also has a slightly different cleaning procedure listed in this SOP.

# When to Use

When using the CSE2 G15 Form Wash station filled with Tripropylene glygol monomethyl ether (TPM).

# How to Use

The following are the control options that may be selected by using the scroll wheel/button on the front of the Form Wash:

* **Start** – lowers the mount and basket and initiates the washing process.
* **Open** – raises the mount and basket.
* **Sleep** – lowers the mount and basket. The wash cycle does not begin until start is selected.
* **Time** – adjusts the wash time, indicated in minutes. Push the knob to select this option, and rotate the knob to move between time settings.

The following are the procedures to use when washing a resin print from the Form 3:

1. Pull out fully the sliding platform the Form Wash sits on.
2. Raise the Form Wash basket by selecting “Open.”
3. Remove your print from the Form 3 build platform and place it into the Form Wash basket by flexing the build sheet above the Form Wash basket. If needed, grasp your print to ensure it does not fall to the floor instead.
   1. Use a “resin only” scraper to remove any excess cured resin from the build plate and a paper towel to wipe away the excess uncured resin from the plate. This paper towel may be thrown away with the standard landfill waste.
   2. Return the build plate to the Form 3 printer.
4. Reference your resin type with the cleaning times table and set the appropriate wash time.
5. Press the “start” button to begin the rinse cycle. **DO NOT push the platform back under the cabinets**; This will cause a collision when the basket comes back up to dry the print.
6. Once the wash cycle is done, allow the prints to drip-dry enough that no further dripping occurs.
7. Rinse the prints in the sink until all remaining TPM has dissolved.
8. Allow to dry again. You may speed this process up by utilizing the small fan above the sink area, pointing it at your print.
9. Done! Place the Form Wash back into “Sleep” mode and push its platform below the cabinets.