

The Advantages of Chlorine Dioxide vs. Bleach

| Bleach | Chlorine Dioxide |
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| Does not remove biofilm | Removes biofilm |
| Produces unwanted by-products including carcinogens | Does not form chlorinated by-products or THMs |
| Is corrosive and unpleasant to handle | Is much less corrosive. Does not hydrolyse to form an acid |
| Already banned in certain parts of Europe and US | Is rapidly replacing chlorine bleach in many of these areas |
| Is pH dependent and very ineffective above pH7 | Is not pH dependent (<pH11) |
| Is ineffective against complex organisms (e.g. cysts & protozoa) | A very broad spectrum kill* |
| Limited oxidative effect against various chemical contaminants. Forms chlorinated phenols | Destroys phenols (without forming chlorinated phenols) specific destruction of Hydrogen Sulphides. Destruction of a wide range of chemical contaminants# |
| Neutralization required before dumping into the foul drain | Because no unwanted by-products are formed, and will have a lower residual after use, no neutralization normally required |
| Cannot be used at temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius due to the release of chlorine gas | Effective at higher temperatures - does not disassociate as rapidly as chlorine |
| Treatment time requires Minutes to Hours | Treatment time requires Seconds to Minutes |
| Effective Concentrations are 5,000 - 10,000 ppm | Effective Concentrations are 50 - 1,000 ppm |
| Increased disinfection time and more service work required to combat high bug counts | Cost savings in labor and use efficiency outweighs the additional chemical costs |

* Includes aerobic, non-aerobic, gram positive & gram negative bacteria, spores, viruses, fungi, cysts and protozoa

Includes iron, manganese and other metalics, phenols, trichlorophenols, hydrogen sulphides and sulphides

 [Click for more info about chlorine dioxide and chlorine bleach misconceptions.](#)

(Reference: Dr. Henry Luftman and Scotsman's Group)