

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPERATING  
MODEL 30/55E  
ELECTRIC POWERED CLEANING UNIT**



*An Electric-powered Vacuum Cleaner  
For Dry or Wet/Dry Material Applications*

## INDUSTRIAL VACUUM CLEANING PRODUCTS

# VAC-U-MAX

### Introduction

Model 30E and 55E vacuums are designed for use on top of standard 30-gallon and 55-gallon open-top steel drums. The vacuums will operate to their highest potential if the drums are in good shape (round and without dents or leaks). Drums and drum dollies are available from VAC-U-MAX as regular production items.

The model 30E and 55E vacuums operate on single phase electricity, either 110V or 220V. Twin-motor versions will be supplied with a grounded plug on a cord. Due to the higher amperage of the triple-motor units and the variety of electrical connections in industrial settings, triple-motor units are *not* supplied with plugs. They do have cordsets with pigtails for the customer to supply a plug to match his outlets.

Export versions of 110V models and all 220V versions are supplied with cordsets but without plugs, due to the variety of electrical systems.

#### AMPERAGE DRAWS

2-motor: 110V/1phase = 16 amps  
 220V/1phase = 8 amps  
 3-motor: 120V/3phase = 24 amps  
 220V/phase = 12 amps

Model 30E and 55E vacs are designed for use in normal industrial settings where there are no hazards from sparking equipment. They are designed for intermittent operation, as opposed to continuous duty. Carbon brush vacuum motors (the power sources of Models 30E and 55E) have life spans directly related to the difficulty of work performed. Factors which affect (shorten) the life of a carbon brush motor are:

⊗ Heat: Do not leave the vac running if it's not working. Do not put things on top of the vac motor housing, because it will block the cooling air inlet.

⊗ Contamination: Do not operate these vacs without an approved VAC-U-MAX filter in place. We have different types of filters to handle different kinds of materials being vacuumed. An inefficient filter will allow the vacuum motors to become contaminated.

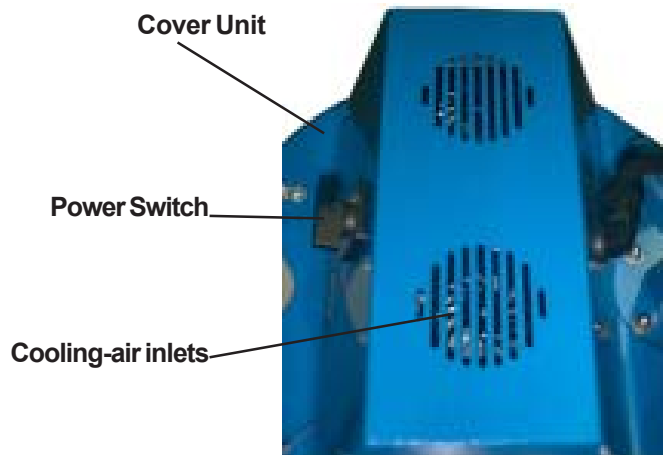
⊗ Abuse: Do not drop the vacuum head from excessive heights. If it is a wet/dry unit, do not continue vacuuming if the "Autovac" cutoff has been activated (high liquid level has been reached). Do not pick up hazardous corrosive, or flammable materials which might cause deterioration or chemical reaction with vacuum components, or cause ignition when exposed to carbon brush motors.

### Operation

To start the vacuums, plug the vacuum into the appropriate electrical outlet and connect the vacuum hose and tools. These vacs have sequential starting switches that have several positions on the dial. Each motor is *started individually* to ease the amperage draw during startup. **DO NOT OPERATE THE VAC AT LESS THAN THE FULL NUMBER OF VACUUM MOTORS.** For example, a twin-motor unit *should not* be operated on one motor. These vacs are powered by small fans. As such, they require air to "breathe" (to function). If you constantly "dead-end" the vac by burying the hose in a drum of water or a pile of powder, the vacuum will operate in a high-vacuum mode and therefore will receive *very little cooling, which results in heat.*

### WARNING

*The vacuum producers for the Model 55E are air-cooled. It is vital to the safe and efficient operation of the unit that nothing be allowed to block the cooling air inlets on the top of the cover housing.*



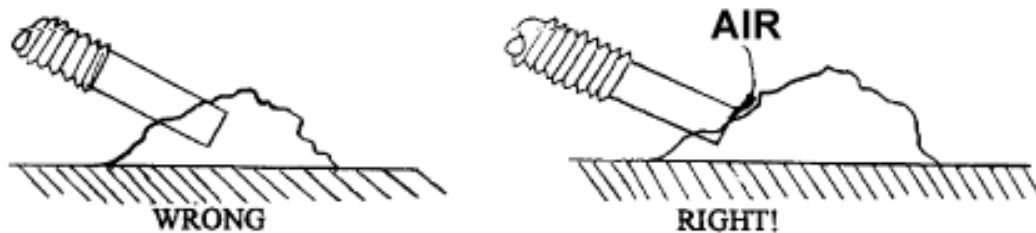
### Cleaning Tips

Proper vacuuming technique requires that **some** portion of the hose orifice **always** be open! When sucking up water, do NOT submerge the hose and cause it to “gulp”. When vacuuming powders, again you must keep **some** portion of the hose orifice open to allow for conveying air to move the material through the hose! When vacuuming liquids or powders on the floor, extend the floor tool and wand **ahead** of the material and **draw it in** towards you.

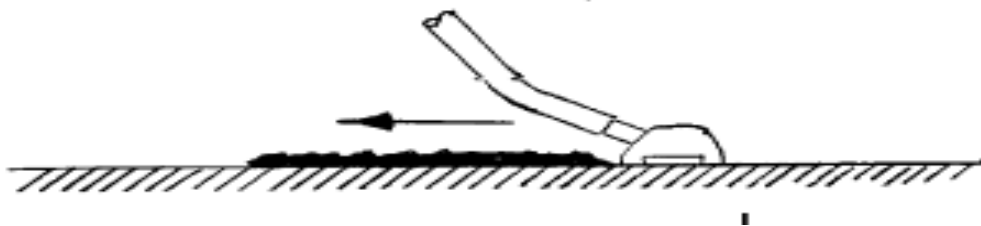
#### Correct Technique for Vacuuming liquids



#### Correct Technique for Vacuuming Dry Materials



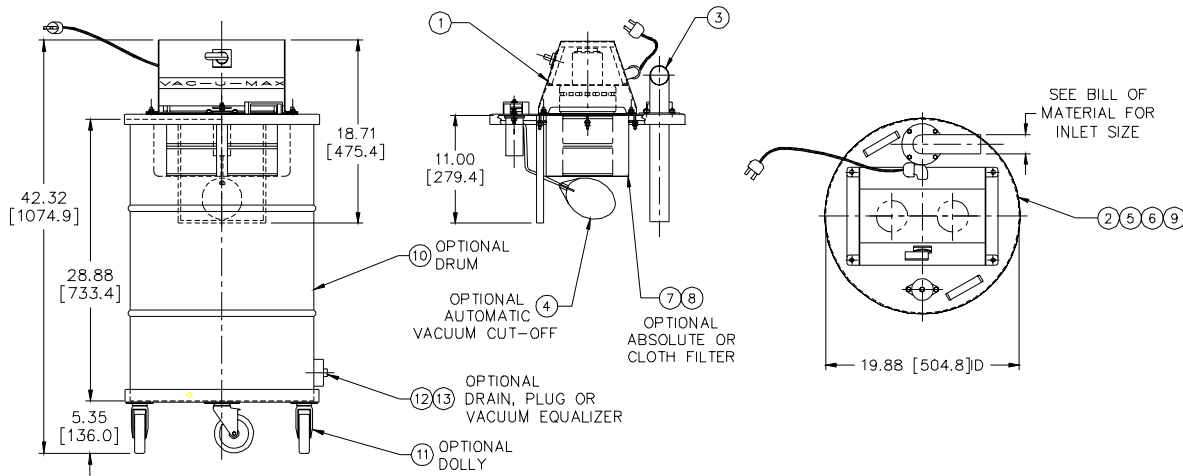
#### Correct Technique for using vacuum wands



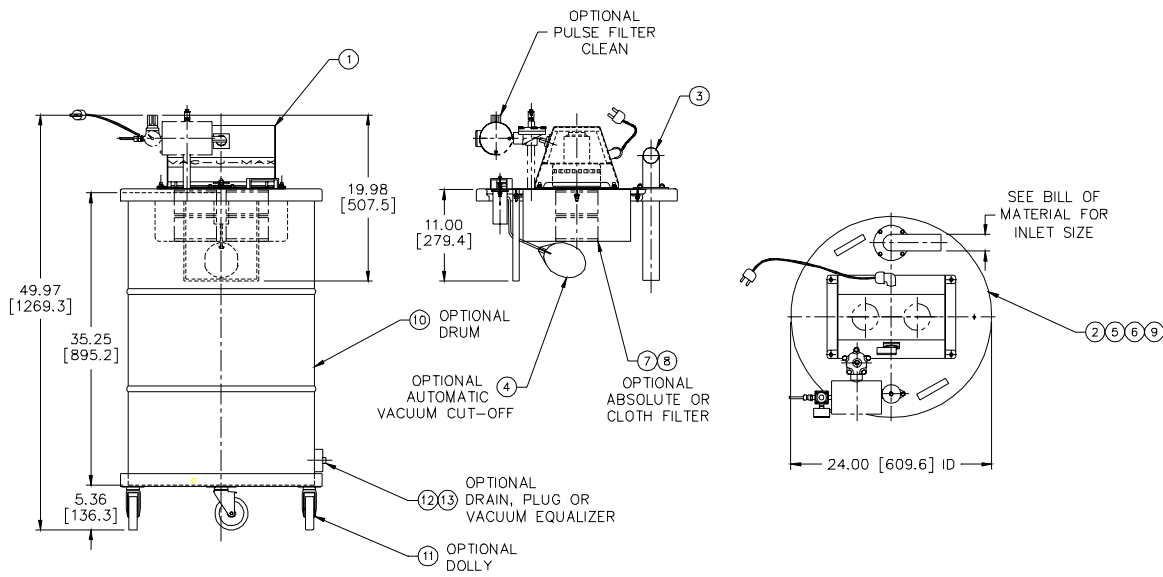
If the “Autovac” liquid shutoff is actuated on a wet/dry vac, this means that the high liquid level has been reached. Vacuuming must stop. You must then empty the drum by either removing the vac head and dumping the drum, or by opening the drain valve on the drum bottom (if supplied). The “Autovac” can be reset by pressing down on the “Autovac” cap, located on the vacuum cover, until it latches in place.

# INDUSTRIAL VACUUM CLEANING PRODUCTS

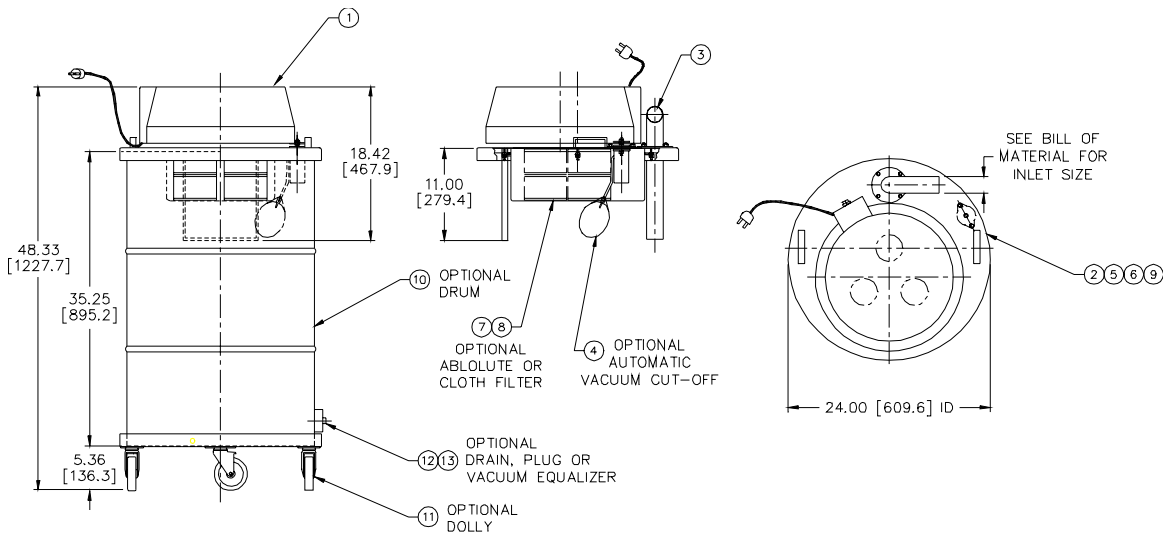
# VAC-U-MAX



**Mdl 30E**  
With Two  
Blower  
Power  
Unit



**Mdl 55E**  
With Two  
Blower  
Power  
Unit



**Mdl 55E**  
With Three  
Blower  
Power  
Unit

PRIMARY PARTS LIST COMPONENT OPTIONS				
KEY NO.	OPTION DESCRIPTION	VUM P/N	QTY	SOLD
<b>1</b>	<b>MDL 30/55E VACUUM POWER GROUP</b>			
1	P/U 2 BLOWER ASSEMBLY 110V WITH AUTOVAC	39639	1	
1	P/U 2 BLOWER ASSEMBLY 220V WITH AUTOVAC	40699	1	
1	P/U 2 BLOWER ASSEMBLY 110V WITH HEPA FILTER	39640	1	
1	P/U 2 BLOWER ASSEMBLY 220V WITH HEPA FILTER	40936	1	
1	P/U 3 BLOWER ASSEMBLY 220V WITH AUTOVAC	40846	1	
1	P/U 3 BLOWER ASSEMBLY 120V WITH AUTOVAC	40845	1	
<b>2</b>	<b>MDL 30/55E COVER GROUP</b>			
2	19 INCH DIAMETER COVER MDL30E	38528	1	
2	24 INCH DIAMETER MDL55E WITH RECT OPN	39361	1	
2	24 INCH DIAMETER MDL55E WITH RECT VEK	51151	1	
2	24 INCH DIAMETER MDL55E WITH PFC	40753	1	
2	24 INCH DIAMETER MDL55E WITHOUT AUTOVAC 3BLWR	38899	1	
<b>3</b>	<b>INLET OPTION GROUP</b>			
3	FLANGED INLET CLN/U 1.5 OD CS	25899	1	
3	FLANGED INLET CLN/U 2.0 OD CS	26107	1	
3	FLANGED INLET CLN/U 2.5 OD CS	32588	1	
3	FLANGED INLET CLN/U 3.0 OD CS	25216	1	
3	FLANGED INLET CLN/U 1.5 OD 304	25916	1	
3	FLANGED INLET CLN/U 2.0 OD 304	26108	1	
3	FLANGED INLET CLN/U 2.5 OD CS	36790	1	
<b>4</b>	<b>AUTOVAC CUTOFF OPTION</b>			
4	PLUG ASSEMBLY CLN/U	26754	1	
4	CUTOFF AUTOVAC2 W/PLAS FLOAT	03952	1	
4	CUTOFF AUTOVAC2 W/COPPER FLOAT	07085	1	
4	PLUG ASSY CLN/U 304	26753	1	
4	CUTOFF AUTOVAC2 W/PLAS FLOAT	03952	1	
<b>5</b>	<b>GASKET OPTIONS</b>			
5	GASKET SET BLACK NEOPRENE	25865	1	
5	GASKET SET MDL55 FUEL/OIL RESIST	43517	1	
5	GASKET SET USED WITH A/C BLACK NEOPRENE	44038	1	
5	GASKET SET MDL55 2JET FUEL RESIST BLACK NEO	55860	1	
<b>6</b>	<b>HARDWARE PACKAGE OPTION</b>			
6	HARDWARE PACKAGE FOR CLN/U CARBON STEEL	40987	1	
6	HARDWARE PACKAGE FOR CLN/U STAINLESS STEEL	45269	1	
<b>7</b>	<b>FILTER MOUNTING HARDWARE OPTION</b>			
7	FILTER HARDWARE FOR CLN/U CARBON STEEL	24931	1	
7	FILTER HARDWARE FOR CLN/U STAINLESS STEEL	24932	1	
<b>8</b>	<b>MDL 30/55E FILTER OPTIONS GROUP</b>			
8	FILTER W/CAGE 13x16x6 V MATERIAL	25868	1	
8	FILTER W/CAGE 13x16x11 V MATERIAL	25869	1	
8	FILTER W/CAGE 13x16x6 GX	33949	1	
8	FILTER W/CAGE 13x16x11 GX	25897	1	
8	FILTER W/CAGE 13x16x6 GX	25898	1	
8	FILTER W/CAGE 13x16x11 TTK	40835	1	
8	FILTER W/CAGE 13x16x6 TTK	40147	1	
8	FILTER W/CAGE 13x16x11 TTK S/C	42433	1	
8	FILTER W/CAGE 13x16x6 TTK S/C	42525	1	
KEY NUMBERS CORRESPOND TO DRAWING BALLOONS FOUND ON OPPOSITE PAGE CONSULT ORDER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR DETAILS ON ANY ITEMS NOT LISTED				

Options Listing  
Of Primary Parts  
For Models 30 &  
55 Electric  
Sheet 1

**Cleaning the Filters**

The VAC-U-MAX Model 55E can be equipped with an absolute filter cartridge and/or a cloth dust filter. The purpose of the filters is to prevent vacuumed material from entering the venturi and discharging into the atmosphere. Regular maintenance of the dust filter will ensure maximum effectivity of the absolute filter and the cleaning unit. Through general use, dust will accumulate on the dust filter. An obstructed dust filter will reduce air flow through the unit and impair the efficiency of the cleaning unit. If the dust filter is torn, frayed or out of shape, it should be discarded and replaced immediately. A poorly maintained dust filter may cause damage to the vacuum power unit.

**Note**

*An absolute filter cannot be cleaned. Once it is completely blinded with fine debris, and is not allowing air flow, it must be replaced.*

Cleaning the Dust filter by Shaking or Brushing:

Shaking the dust filter or gently brushing it are both effective ways to rejuvenate the filter.

1. Shut off the electrical power and remove the cover unit from the collection drum.
2. Loosen the filter retaining wing nuts and turn the filter retaining lugs to the side.
3. Carefully remove the dust filter from the filter support cage.
4. Clean by shaking and/or brushing by in an approved and environmentally acceptable manner.

Cleaning the Dust Filter by Washing:

The most effective way to clean the dust filter is to wash it.

*Washing the Dust Filter by Hand:*

1. Shut off the electrical power and remove the cover unit from the collection drum.
2. Loosen the filter retaining wing nuts and turn the filter retaining lugs to the side.
3. Carefully remove the dust filter from the filter support cage.
4. Fill a clean bucket or suitable container with warm water and a mild soap solution. Do not use a washing machine. (The agitation of a washing machine will damage the filter material).
5. Gently work the filter under the warm water/soap solution to breakup accumulated material.

**Note**

Hot water up to 185 deg. F. may be used to sanitize a TTK type dust filter. However, it is vital that care be taken to preserve the PTFE coating.

6. After washing is completed, air dry the dust filter at room temperature. Hot air drying will damage the filter material.

*Washing the Dust Filter Using a Low-Pressure Hose:*

An option to washing the filter by hand is to spray-clean it using a low pressure water hose.

1. Shut off the electrical power and remove the cover unit from the collection drum.
2. Loosen the filter retaining wing nuts and turn the filter retaining lugs to the side.
3. Carefully remove the dust filter from the filter support cage.
4. Using a standard low-pressure water hose and a wide angle, indirect spray, clean the filter in an approved and environmentally acceptable manner.
6. After washing is completed, air dry the dust filter at room temperature. Hot air drying will damage the filter material.

**Filter used with  
Dry-only**



**Filter used with Wet/Dry  
Applications**



## Trouble Shooting Guide Model 30/55 Electric

Problem	Solution
1. Vacuum is running, but no suction at the inlet	Remove protection cap on both ends of the inlet.  Check the inlet elbow and vacuum hose for pluggage or restrictions. Reverse the air flow to dislodge materials.
2. Vacuum starts but shuts down immediately	Check the circuit breaker; verify that breaker is the proper rating for the required load. Reset breaker or replace fuse if blown.
3. Unit is running, but suction is weak	Verify that vacuum is running on the full amount of motors.  Check the collection drum for leaks.  Ensure that vacuum cover is flush with drum edge and that gasket is in place.  Check filters for clogging or blinding. Replace if needed.
4. Vacuum will function for a period of time, but then will shut off. It will not restart immediately.	The Vacuum is probably overheating due to heavy workload or lack of cooling air. Allow the vacuum unit to cool and eliminate any blockage of the cooling air inlet.
5. Vacuum is "Gulping" when used on liquids.	Vacuum is starved for air. Use proper cleaning technique.

If problems persist, contact VAC-U-MAX engineering or sales department at: 1-800-289-8228 for further assistance.

When ordering spare parts, please refer to the "C" number (VAC-U-MAX job number) located on the identification plate. You may contact the VAC-U-MAX order department directly by phone at: (973) 759-1043 or FAX 973-759-6671.



## DANGER

**IT IS VITAL TO THE WELFARE OF THE CUSTOMER THAT CARE BE TAKEN WHENEVER USING THE MODEL 30/55E WITH LIQUIDS. SHOCK OR INJURY CAN RESULT IF THE VACUUM UNIT IS NOT USED IN A SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE MANNER..**

## DANGER

- ☑ Service or maintenance must only be performed by properly trained and/or authorized personnel.

## CAUTION

- ☑ Always disconnect electrical power to the unit before attempting maintenance or repairs.
- ☑ Do not loosen or break any clamps, connections, plugs or covers until the unit is shut down.

## REPLACEMENT PARTS

*A parts list has been supplied. A complete inventory of spare parts is maintained at the factory for immediate shipment. Prices are available upon request. When ordering spare parts, please state the unit's sale number, its customer's number, the catalog number, and a physical description of the required part.*

## Warranty Information

### RECONDITIONING

A factory reconditioning service is available for older cleaning units. Contact the Sales Department for information.

### ACCESSORIES

A complete line of vacuum cleaning accessories for general cleaning purposes is available. Request Bulletin 123.

### VAC-U-MAX MODEL 55E WARRANTY

VAC-U-MAX Model 55E Vacuum Cleaning Equipment with carbon brush motors, exclusive of expendables, such as, filters, gaskets, mufflers and hose, is warranted to be free of defects in material and workmanship for a period of 1 year from date of shipment of the equipment.

Equipment shall not be returned to VAC-U-MAX under this warranty without the prior written approval of VAC-U-MAX.

Whenever possible, a field inspection will be performed by a VAC-U-MAX representative prior to equipment return, except where otherwise agreed. All shipments to VAC-U-MAX will be made freight prep aid and equipment will remain the property and responsibility of the customer until an inspection at VAC-U-MAX (37 Rutgers Street, Belleville, NJ 07109) certifies that replacement or repair under the warranty is called for.

VAC-U-MAX liability shall be limited to repairing or replacing the defective part. VAC-U-MAX shall not be liable for loss, damage, or any other expense arising from the use of its products or from any other case.

This warranty is void if damage or defect is due to negligence or misuse\* by buyer or if the equipment is modified in any manner without expressed written approval of VAC-U-MAX.

**\* These units are for intermittent duty only. Continuous operation will severely jeopardize motor life and will void the warranty.**