

BD FACSAria™ II, BD FACSAria™ III, BD FACSAria™ Fusion, BD FACSMelody™ Cell Sorters

Integrated Nozzle FAQ

March 2018

Q: Can I replace an O-ring that has been lost from an integrated nozzle?

A: No. The O-ring is overmolded to the orifice, and then the orifice is permanently glued into the nozzle handle. However, the standard O-ring can be used as a short-term replacement in the integrated nozzle, if the original seal has been damaged or lost.

Q: What are the recommended storage, handling and use conditions for integrated nozzles?

A: Observe the following when using an integrated nozzle:

- Sonicate the nozzle for one minute in a tube of deionized (DI) water before use.
- DO NOT use the sorting integrated nozzle during startup, cleaning or shutdown protocols or wizards. Use the closed-loop nozzle only for these procedures.
- After use, sonicate the nozzle for one minute in a tube of DI water.
- Dab the nozzle gently with a clean, lint-free wipe before storing.
- Store the nozzle dry in a closed tube to prevent dust from collecting on the nozzle.

Q: Can the nozzle be exposed to strong base solutions such as CONTRAD® 70 or BD™ FACSrinse solution or a strong chemical such as bleach?

A: No. The seal will be damaged if the nozzle is submerged in these solutions (for example, when sonicating).

Q: Will running 10% bleach through my sample line with the nozzle inserted shorten the lifespan of the nozzle?

A: No. Only the inner portion of the O-ring (and not the completed overmold) is exposed to bleach when the nozzle is inserted.

Q: The Prepare for Aseptic Sort mode requires the use of 10% bleach with the closed-loop nozzle inserted. Will this shorten the lifespan of the nozzle?

A: No. Only the inner portion of the O-ring (and not the completed overmold) is exposed to bleach when the closed-loop nozzle is inserted.

Q: Can I use the Clean Flow Cell mode with the integrated nozzle inserted?

A: No. This is not recommended. If bleach or another strong chemical is required for cleaning, you can clean the flow cell without a nozzle installed.

Q: How do you clean the nozzle?

A: Sonicate it for one minute in a tube containing DI water to remove any salt crystals prior to drying and storing. Repeat sonication until the nozzle is clean.

Q: Can 70% ethanol be used with the integrated nozzle?

A: Yes. 70% ethanol will not shorten the life of the nozzle.

Q: Should the nozzle be stored wet or dry?

A: Dry. Storing the nozzle wet could shorten the lifespan of the O-ring.

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