

Soap Dispensers

Gamco Recommendations for Soap Types to be used in Gamco Dispensers

Being in the business of selling and servicing soap dispensers, it's important that a basic knowledge of different soaps and soap dispenser servicing be known. All too often, when there is a problem in the field with a soap dispenser, it is caused by a mismatch of soap being used with the soap dispenser supplied. A general insight of the different types of soaps and where we recommend their use follows:

1. **Natural Liquid Soap:** This type of soap which uses natural ingredients as the basis is usually the least expensive soap to use. Usually green in color, coconut oils and/or vegetable oils make this soap appealing and effective. All of our standard liquid soap dispensers can use this soap without problems **as long as** it has been diluted to no more than 15% solution. This means that if you were to boil off the water, the **anhydrous** solution, or soap solids that remain will make up 15% of the original volume. Although it is far cheaper to purchase a concentrated solution (usually comes in 40%) and dilute with water, this soap also can be purchased pre-mixed to a 15% solution. When properly diluted, this soap can also be dispensed in a lather forming soap dispenser, which mixes the soap with air and dispense the soap in a very appealing rich creamy lather. Dispensing natural liquid soap, that has been diluted to a 15% solution, in a lather forming dispenser is by far the most effective way to dispense soap. (approximately 30% savings over straight liquid soap dispenser).
2. **Lotion Soap:** This type of liquid soap uses petroleum products as its' basic ingredients. It also contains emollients (which softens the skin), opacifiers (which makes the soap opaque), perfumes (which gives the soap a pleasant scent), and dyes (which makes the soap the popular pink, or other colors). This soap, which is more expensive than the natural liquid soap, can also be diluted as discussed above, and can be dispensed in a regular liquid or lather forming soap dispenser. However, since this soap is usually bought in the concentrated form, and most building managers do not know to dilute the soap, you will usually find that the cause of a clogged up soap dispenser is nothing more than this concentrated lotion soap clogging up a regular liquid soap dispenser that is not designed to dispense the concentrated, or very viscous soap.
3. **Powdered Soaps:** This type of soap contains abrasives that aid in cleaning extremely dirty and oily hands. Powdered soaps should be used in factories and other types of facilities where heavy duty hand washings are necessary. Using powdered soaps in hospitals, office buildings, hotels, etc., is not recommended since most people would object to the rather rough feel on their skin.
4. **General Maintenance:** Simple basic cleaning of all surfaces of the dispenser with plain soap and water on a regular basis will keep the units operating for years. If for some reason the unit is not filled and the soap dries up, or if concentrated soap is wrongfully put in a liquid soap dispenser, soaking all the parts in warm water should unclog the unit.