WILLARD

CONSERVATION

Equipment Engineers

Textile Washing Table
User guide

Willard Conservation manufactures high quality, hand-built products for the museum, gallery and archive sectors around the world. Conservators can select from an expanding portfolio of heated hand tools, suction tables, easels, lighting and more. Willard is family owned and run, and dedicated to its customers.

Textile Cleaning Tables are used typically as support and drainage platforms, with adjustable tilt, for washing and rinsing treatments to large format textiles such as wall hangings, banners, apparel etc. They may also be used for treatments to wallpaper and other large sheet materials.

Tables can be converted easily to washing tanks by mounting the detachable sides supplied with the unit. In addition to handling full sized items, either configuration is exceedingly useful for containment and drainage when treating a number of smaller items in trays. Heated and unheated versions are available and are almost identical in appearance.

Guarantee: Willard products are designed to give long and trouble free performance and are guaranteed from the day of delivery for a period of 12 months. Any component or part which becomes defective during that period as a result of faulty materials or fabrication, whilst in normal use, will be repaired or replaced.

Contents

The table consists of three main parts

- Aluminium alloy washing platform with two fixed sides and two detachable sides mounted on a tilting frame which rotates around the long axis. A gutter runs along the two open sides to a corner drain. A factory-set, base levelling array of screws ensures flatness of the platform. Heated versions incorporate electrical elements directly below the surface.

- A Lower tilting frame bears the washing platform and upper tilt frame and rotates around the short axis. The long axis tilt control handle is mounted on this frame.

- Base support frame with heavy duty lockable castors. The short axis tilt control handle is mounted at one end.

Operational modes

1. With the two detachable sides removed and the stainless steel rails in place, the table is suitable for gravity flow washing treatments. The angle of the platform can be adjusted in two axes for efficient drainage.

2. With the two detachable sides in place the table becomes a washing tank suitable for immersion and float washing. A drain tap fitted to the long side discharges directly into the drain hole.

2. Safety

- Ensure that the power supply cords (heated version) and drainage hose do not pose a tripping hazard and that they are not overrun by the castors.
- Before switching on the power, always ensure that the temperature control dial is adjusted to its lowest setting.
- Always ensure before use that the drainage is securely connected.
- When in use as a washing tank, before filling, check that the tap above the corner drain is closed.
- Always lock the castors once the table is in position. The equipment could otherwise move if leaned against.

3. To operate as a flow washing table

Setting up

- Position the equipment so that the flexible pipe attached to the corner drain stub is led into a suitable waste.
- Using the spanner provided, undo the nuts from the short detachable tank side and remove.
- Undo the nuts from the shorter of the two sections on the long side of the tank and remove.
- Undo the nuts from the remaining longer section and remove.
- Insert the threaded end of the long rail into the hole at the top corner of the fixed short side. Support the weight of the rail and join to the short length of rail using the locating peg.
- Insert the threaded end of the short rail into the hole at the top corner of the fixed long side.
- Secure the rails with the knurled nuts provided. Avoid over tightening.

Flow washing

- The use of a support sheet (i.e. non-woven) below the object is recommended as it permits easy re-positioning during treatment and allows the object to be transported safely.
- Level the platform and place the object on it. If the object is wider than the platform, drape the excess over the stainless rail and rotate after the first

part has been cleaned. Wet textile may need additional support to compensate for the increased weight.
- If the table is a heated model, set the control to the desired temperature and allow time for it to stabilise (15-30 minutes). Always use water pre-warmed to slightly above the required temperature.
- The spray bar may be used to apply water and/or detergents.
- Tilt the table as required using the two handles in order to achieve the desired flow. Ensure that the object does not slide off the platform.

4. To operate as an immersion washing tank

Setting up

- Undo the knurled nuts from the ends of the long and short stainless steel rails. Lift the rails slightly at the corner and part the two sections carefully. Remove the rails, put the knurled nuts back on and leave to one side.
- Offer up the longer of the sections on the long side and secure with the bolts. Do not fully tighten at this stage.
- Offer up the second section and secure with the bolts. Do not fully tighten.
- Offer up the short end section and secure with the bolts.
- See that the sides are properly aligned and seated and tighten the bolts. Caution: do not use excessive force as this will compact the rubber seals and could eventually cause them to leak.

Immersion and float washing

- Level the platform and close the tap above the corner drain.
- Heated models are designed to maintain temperature, but are not intended for heating of large volumes of water from cold. For maximum efficiency, when filling the tank, use water from your hot water system.

5. Heating system Control Box (heated versions only)

This is a wall mounted unit. As with all electrical equipment, it should be connected to a suitable electrical supply by a competent qualified person only. There are two switches; one for the multiple heating elements below the washing platform and the other to operate the pump connected to the collection tank (if supplied). The temperature display is controlled by a sensor in direct contact with the washing platform.

- Turn temperature dial to minimum and ON/OFF switch to OFF before switching on at mains.
- Turn dial to selected temperature and switch ON
- Wait until the temperature has stabilised
- Use water pre-heated to slightly above the desired temperature for filling the tank.
- The heating elements will maintain the temperature

The heating elements power supply cord has a connector on the side of the box.

6. Collection tank

This has a separate support frame and castors.

- Connect to corner drain with flexible pipe and secure with clips.
- Observe water level indicated by the float in the clear pipe on the side of the tank
- Operate switch on control box to pump out and prevent overfilling
- Wash tank out with clean water after use

Note: The end of the waste pipe from the tank must be secured or held firmly over a sink or drain to prevent water jetting into the working area.

Ensure the power supply cable does not represent a tripping hazard and is not overrun by castors.

The collection tank may be disconnected from the table to allow gravity draining. The power supply to the tank has a separate connector on the side of the box.

7. Routine maintenance

- Wash with clean water after use and dry thoroughly.
- Do not leave damp materials on any of the surfaces after using the table as long term contact could cause discolouration.
- Do not use abrasive scourers, cleaning agents or acids.
- Check the neoprene seals periodically for damage, or the presence of foreign materials.

Willard equipment is designed and built to such a standard that very little routine maintenance should be required. If you do experience any problems, contact Willard before taking any action. Do not try to disassemble the equipment, as doing so could void the guarantee.

This leaflet is written only as a guide. It is the responsibility of conservators to use their experience and judgement to ensure that the materials selected for treatment and the methods employed are suitable and compatible. Willard Conservation cannot be held liable for users' actions.

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