



# Operating Manual

**Model 971**

**Shockless DC Ionising Bar**



# Contents

Introduction	3
Unpacking and Inspection	4
Installation	8
Maintenance	11
Fault Finding	13
Repairs And Warranty	17
Technical and Construction	18
CE Approval	18
Health and Safety	18

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# Introduction



The Meech 971 has been designed to provide highly effective long range ionisation using Pulsed DC Technology.

The 971 Bar provides ionisation through alternating positive and negative emitter pins mounted in a profiled extrusion. The emitter pins are resistively coupled to the high voltage pulsed DC source, rendering the emitters shockless to touch. The emitter pins are removable to enable cleaning or replacement.

The extruded profile has been designed to enhance emitter life and allow easy cleaning while giving linear strength. The profile incorporates “T” slots on three faces to provide universal mounting points. The Meech 971 is powered by any of the range of Meech Pulsed DC Controllers.

# Unpacking And Inspection

Your 971 bar was carefully packed at the factory in a container designed to protect it from accidental damage. Nevertheless, we recommend careful examination of the carton and contents for any damage.

If damage is evident, do not destroy the carton or packing material and immediately notify the carrier of a possible damage claim. Shipping claims must be made by the consignee to the delivering carrier.

## Features and Benefits of the 971

### Overall look



The profile of the 971 bar is rounded, with minimal dirt traps, making it useful for cleanroom applications. The bar has good rigidity, allowing it to span wide widths. Mounting is by M4x20 T bolts in a slot at the rear of the bar.

## Upstand



The upstand between the nozzles is a vital feature of the 971 bar. By increasing the tracking distance between positive and negative pins, the upstand helps maintain good performance even when the bar is contaminated.

## Emitter Assembly



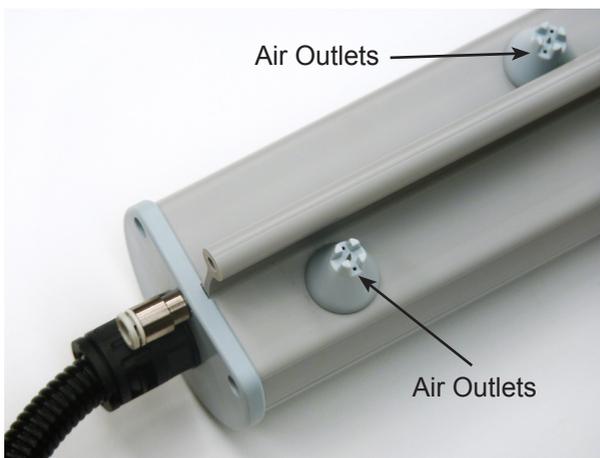
The emitter assembly is a one piece moulding with a 1mm diameter sharp titanium emitter pin. The use of titanium pins has a long history at Meech. Extremely hard wearing, the pins last for many years. The emitter features castellation that protects the operator from the point of the emitter. The castellation also allows very easy cleaning of the pin using a brush. This is a great improvement on other pulsed DC bars. The open design of the emitter also gives a performance boost over previous systems.

## Meech Emitter Key and Replacement Emitters



Replacement emitters will be available in bags of ten. Each bag will include an emitter key to allow their easy removal and re-fitting. A tool to facilitate removal and replacement of the emitter pins is also available.

## Air-Boost



6 Whilst the long range performance of the 971 is excellent, some installations can require the use of air assistance to get full control of the static. This can either be by increased speeds of decay and/or by increased ionisation range. Air outlets either side

of the emitter pin ensure that the integrated air-boost is extremely efficient. Each 971 bar is supplied with a 6mm push-fit air fitting pre-installed.

## Increased Voltage Handling

Internal changes to the bar ensure absolute reliability at the higher voltages supplied by the 977CM. The ceramic resistors that couple each emitter to the high voltage supply provide shockless operation whilst still giving excellent ionisation performance. Fully encapsulated, they are protected from any moisture or chemical ingress and give the bar a protection classification of IP65.

<b>Feature</b>	<b>Benefit</b>
Powerful long range Ionisation	Excellent static control on modern, fast machinery
Rigid profile	Minimises the number of mounting points required
Resistive coupling	Safe for operators to handle
Titanium emitter pins	Continue to give good ionisation after years of use
Replaceable emitter assemblies	Allows periodic replacement to extend service life
'T' slot mountings	Provides complete flexibility of mounting points
Integrated air-boost	Increased performance for demanding applications

# Installation

The 971 Bar should be located in the most convenient position so that the pins of the bar are directed towards the target area. The bar should be positioned to give an unrestricted path for the ions to travel to the target area. It should typically be between 300mm and 800mm away from the target area.

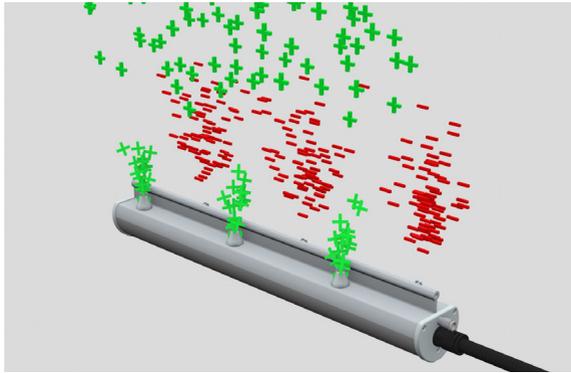
The Meech 971 can be connected to any of the Meech range of Pulsed DC Controllers.

The 971 connects to the Pulsed DC Controller by plugging the male plugs, found at the end of the bar cabling, directly into the high voltage sockets of the controller. The plugs and sockets are marked with “+” positive and “-” negative indicators for correct connection to the power supply.



Connect the mains supply to the Pulsed DC Controller and switch ON. The 971 Bar will now produce Pulsed DC ionisation from the emitters of the bar.

The shockless emitter pins produce ions of positive and negative polarity. These, because of the product's unique design, propel themselves away from the emitter points towards the target area.



Optimum static elimination can be achieved by adjustment of the “Rate” (frequency of pulsing) and the “Balance” (proportion of positive to negative ions generated) on the Controller.



If the bar is positioned a long distance from the target area (600mm-750mm) the “Rate” should be set to the lowest setting. If the bar is positioned close to the target area (150mm -300mm) the “Rate” should be set towards its maximum.

If the polarity of the static charge to be removed is known, the balance can be adjusted to give a faster decay speed.

- I.E. a) If the static charge is known to be positive the balance should be adjusted towards negative on the controller.
- b) If the static charge is known to be negative the balance should be adjusted towards positive on the controller.



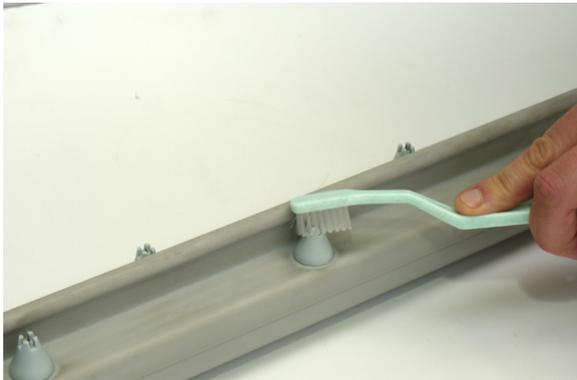
# Maintenance

Ionisers require periodic cleaning. During normal operation, dirt will build-up on the emitter pins and upon the body of the ioniser. This will cause a reduction in performance.

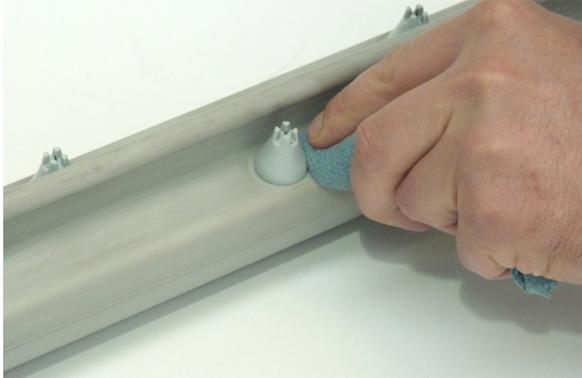
Typically, weekly cleaning is sufficient. However, equipment used in some heavy contamination areas, such as gravure printing or where plastic fumes are present, may require daily cleaning. Equally, in a Class 100 area, cleaning may only be required on a monthly basis. Advanced systems with performance monitoring, e.g 977CM and 904CM, will alert the operator to the need to clean the equipment before performance drops to an unacceptable level.

Before cleaning, ensure that the equipment is switched off.

Emitter pins can be cleaned very effectively with a brush. A dry toothbrush is ideal.



Ionising bars will need periodic wiping to clean grey deposits from the surface of the bar. A cloth moistened with a small amount of IPA or methylated spirits is recommended.



Let dry for a minute before turning back on.



If on inspection, the emitter pins of the Bar are very dirty or damaged they should be replaced. Replacement emitters are available from Meech Static Eliminators Ltd. or your local Meech Distributor.

# Fault Finding

Tests must be completed by a qualified electrical engineer.

If in doubt contact the Meech head office or your local distributor.

**CAUTION:** Whilst no danger to personnel exists, it is essential that any high voltage ionising equipment, makes no contact with water or water based fluids.

**Should such an event occur, disconnect immediately and return equipment to the manufacturer for water damage assessment.**

To verify where a fault may have occurred it is important to test each item of the system individually. Should more than one bar be connected to a power supply, each must be tested individually.

To check the Pulsed DC system follow the procedure detailed below:

1. Switch off the electrical supply to the system.



2. Disconnect all bars from the controller.



3. Reconnect the supply and switch on the unit.



- Using a high voltage probe (RS type 610 281) and meter (RS type 610 950) measure the voltage on each of the output sockets. The reading should be at minimum power 4kV and at maximum power 8kV



- Having checked the power supply, reconnect one 971 Bar.



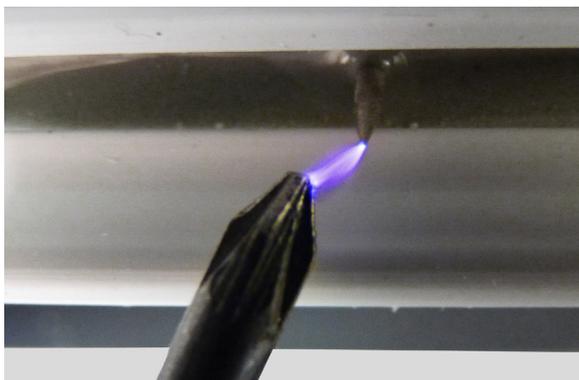
- Using a high voltage probe (RS 610 281) and meter (RS 610 590) measure the voltage on the pins of the bar. This voltage should be between 3 and 6kV.



- If there is more than one bar to test, disconnect the first item and repeat the above steps.

If no meter and probe is available, then a fast and simple test is to simply short a pin of one of the ionising bars to earth using a length of insulated electrical cable bared back 3 mm at either end.

Connect one end of the cable to the earth post of the bar. Approach the pin of the bar with the other end of the cable. As the conductors of the cable approaches the pins of the bar a small faint spark should jump from the pin to the cable conductors. If the bar is under direct sunlight or bright lights it may be difficult to see this spark.



# Repairs And Warranty

The Meech 971 Bar is warranted by Meech Static Eliminators Ltd. to the original purchaser against defects in material and workmanship for one year after purchase. Should any malfunction occur, please return the bar directly to Meech Static Eliminators Ltd. or your local Meech Distributor. All products returned to the factory MUST be accompanied by a return authorisation number and must be shipped prepaid. For prompt service, ship the unit to the factory with the return authorisation number shown clearly on the label. Be sure that it is well packed in a sturdy carton with shock absorbing material.

Include a note stating the nature of the problem as specifically as possible, and also include instructions for returning the bar to you. We will pay one-way return shipping costs on any repairs covered under the warranty.

# Technical and Construction

Dimensions (cross section)	63mm x 72mm
Maximum length	3900mm
Operating Range	150mm – 750mm
Weight	1.2 kg/m
Construction	ABS Plastic FR
Mounting	'T' Slot with M4 x 20 studs
Cable length	2000mm HT in flexible plastic conduit, longer available.
Emitters	Sharp titanium pins
Power source	977v3 or 977CM
Input voltage	Up to 15KV
Output frequency	1Hz - 20Hz
Air-boost connection	6mm push-fit
Air consumption	5 cfm per 1000mm at 1 bar
Protection class	IP65

## CE Approval

An EC Declaration of Conformity for this product exists in respect of the Low Voltage Directive:72/23/EEC ("LVD") & Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive: 89/336/EEC ("EMCD")



## Health and Safety

18 Emission of Ozone: Considerably below international standard of 0.1ppm.









#### **Meech International**

2 Network Point  
Range Road, Witney  
OX29 0YN, UK

Tel: +44 (0)1993 706700  
Fax: +44 (0)1993 776977  
email: sales@meech.com

#### **Meech Static Eliminators (Shanghai) Co. Ltd**

7G, 7F, LP Tower  
#25 Xiangfeng Road  
201103 Shanghai  
China

Tel: +86 400 820 0102  
Fax: +86 21 6405 7736  
email: china@meech.com

#### **Meech Static Eliminators USA Inc**

2915 Newpark Drive  
Norton, OH 44203  
USA

Tel: +1 330 564 2000 / 1 800 232 4210  
Fax: +1 330 564 2005  
email: info@meech.com

#### **Meech Shavotech**

29/2, Kharadi  
Off Pune-Nagar Road  
On Old Kharadi Mundhwa Road  
Pune - 411014, Maharashtra  
India

Tel: +91 (0)703 093 8211 / +91 (0)741 000 4817  
Fax: +91 (080) 28395963  
email: india@meech.com

#### **Meech Elektrostatik SA**

Kaiserbaracke 166  
B-4780 St.Vith  
Belgium

Tel.: +49 (0)6555 3733 399  
+32 (0)80 670 204  
Fax: +32 (0)80 862 821  
email: mesa@meech.com

#### **Meech International (Singapore) Pte. Ltd.**

7 Temasek Boulevard  
12 - 07 Suntec Tower One  
Singapore  
Singapore  
038987

Tel: +65 65918859  
email: singapore@meech.com

#### **Meech CE**

Gábor László utca 2  
Budapest 1041  
Hungary

Tel: +36 1 7977039  
+36 30 2803334  
email: ce@meech.com