

PATERSON ACUFIX

Caution

Acid solution. Harmful in contact with skin and if swallowed. After contact with skin wash immediately with plenty of water. In case of splashes in the eye flush with water for at least 15 minutes and seek medical advice. If swallowed drink water and seek immediate medical advice. Keep out of reach of children.

Characteristics

Acufix is an acid fixer based on ammonium thiosulphate which in a suitable formula confers especially valuable properties for fixation. Acufix has been specially designed for all modern films, plates and papers, both conventional and resin coated. Acufix is extremely clean working throughout its life, and fixes modern emulsions with a high iodide content to absolute base clarity. Glossy prints fixed in Acufix glaze to an exceptionally high gloss free from blemishes.

Dilution and use

For high speed fixing of films and papers dilute 1 part Acufix with 3 parts water. At a temperature of 20°C (68°F) films will clear in 15–90 secs. depending on type of emulsion, and papers will fix in 30–60 secs. For optimum permanence materials should be fixed for twice the clearing time. Acufix may also be diluted 1 + 7 which doubles the fixing time. The fixing action takes place in a specially buffered solution which gives outstanding resistance to 'carry-over' from the developer and prolongs rapidity and life of the fixer. The use of a stop bath such as Acustop is however preferable to ensure maximum life of the fixer by preventing alkaline 'carry-over' from the developer, particularly with papers. A thorough rinse in plain water may be used if desired.

Exhaustion

The exact working life of a fixer depends on variable factors such as density of the images to be fixed and amount of 'carry-over' from the developer depending on the use and efficiency of the stop bath. However, as an indication a minimum of 40 average 20 x 25cm prints can be fixed in 600ml of working solution at 1 + 3 dilution using Acustop bath between developer and fixer.

Exhaustion is best tested under practical conditions by assuming that the fixer is exhausted when the clearing time has doubled. This can easily be checked by using a small piece of discarded film or film leader. Since different films have different clearing times, the same type of film should be used for each test, and the amount of agitation and the solution temperature should be the same.