

QUICK REFERENCE: ALTERNATIVES TO CONTINUOUS FLAMES USED IN A BIOSAFETY CABINET

Continuous Flames are PROHIBITED for use in the Biosafety Cabinet (BSC)

Safe gas burners:

- Have adjustable burning time
- Should have an independent source of power from the main electric or gas supply
- Are economical and occupy a relatively small footprint
- Must be activated by touch and be simple to operate

Safe Alternative to Continuous Flame Bunsen Burners:

○ **Bacticinerator**



○ **Glass Bead Sterilizer**



○ **Touch-O-Matic**



○ **Safety Lab Gas Burner**



○ **Mini Propane Torch**



Disadvantages of Continuous Flame:

- ❖ Direct BSC hook-up to the building's central gas line is prohibited.
- ❖ Will void manufacturer's warranties on the BSC and HEPA filter.
- ❖ Continuously burning flames disturb the airflow in BSCs, causing potentially infectious air to escape.
- ❖ Heat from the continuous flame can damage cabinet structure and HEPA filter.
- ❖ Flammable chemicals used in BSCs become concentrated through air recirculation. Concentrated flammable vapors can ignite with an open flame and explode in the cabinet.