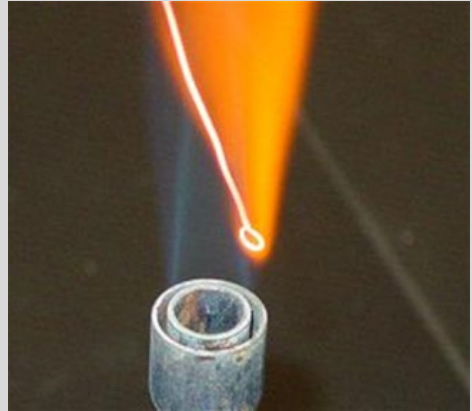
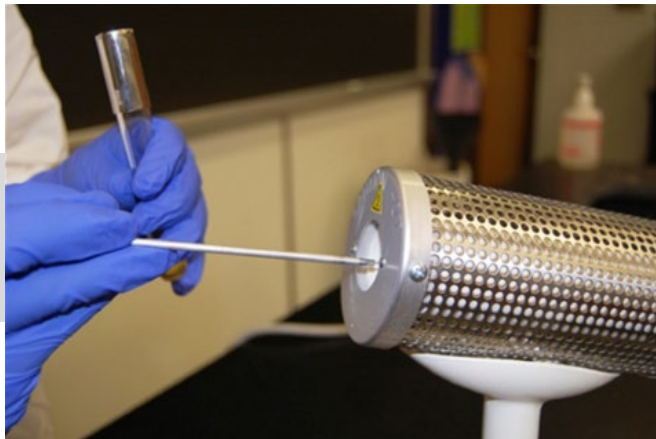


The insertion of a sterile, hot wire loop or needle into a liquid or slant culture can cause splattering and release of an aerosol with viable infectious particles.

Also, placing a used inoculating loop, wire or needle directly into a flame can cause splattering and release of a viable aerosol.



## INOCULATING LOOP: Safety Practices



- Hot loops should touch the sterile agar to “sizzle” or be allowed to cool in the air before touching the working culture.
- The use of a shielded electric incinerator minimizes aerosol production during loop sterilization.

- Plastic disposable transfer loops do not have to be flamed/sterilized. Their use removes the potential aerosol risk.

