

CLEANING LABORATORY EVALUATION SUMMARY

SCL #: 2008

DateRun: 02/08/2008

Experimenters: Heidi Wilcox

ClientType: Metal Finishing

ProjectNumber: Project #1

Substrates: Steel

PartType: Part

Contaminants: Oil

Cleaning Methods: Immersion/Soak

Analytical Methods:

Purpose: To identify a cleaning process that would eliminate TCE and control potential rusting issues with steel parts.

Experimental Procedure: This company was an attendee at the hands-on cleaning workshop in 2007 at the DEM building in Providence, RI. They brought some parts that were small semi-circles of steel with light oil on them. They said they would have a rust issue and didn't know if aqueous could be used for them.

No walk through was completed. Initial interface was in a conference room to discuss current status of TCE usage. The company used under 1000 pounds of TCE last year. Their parts may have drying issues if the company switched to an aqueous process. The company had looked at dryers but thought they were expensive. They did feel that it was expensive to deal with the regulations and to comply, 1000's of dollars. The idea that a new solvent may be expensive but without the cost of complying and regulatory permitting etc. the cost could be equal was appealing to the company.

Results: The lab offered to take their soils, parts and bring them to the lab and work on cleaning them. Any successful alternatives would then be brought to them, and equipment could be provided on loan to assist in the evaluation process. The lab encouraged them to attend the upcoming workshop.

Summary:

Conclusion: The company president signed up on the spot for the workshop and free testing help.