

Metal Cleaning Process Basics – Manual Concentration Monitoring

Session Questions and Answers

Q: How often should I measure the concentration of my wash bath?

A: Each cleaning process is a little different. Depending on your process you might be monitoring the concentration once a shift, once a day or even once a week. That's something you have to fine tune to your individual process and it's something we can help you out with so feel free to reach out to your KYZEN Regional Manager.

Q: With titration, do you have to shake or stir the wash solution after each drop is added?

A: It would be better to stir it, or give it a little swirl. It'll help you see the color change. Agitating it a little bit will hopefully get some good results!

Q: Do I need to calibrate my conductivity meter?

A: Yes, you should absolutely calibrate your conductivity meter and you should do this at least once a month. Take care not to contaminate the calibration fluids when you are doing the calibration. It happens often where someone will stick a dirty probe down in the solution. This will effectively contaminate it and ruin it. Instead, wash off the probe with DI water and wipe it with a Kimwipe beforehand.

Q: I noticed the conductivity of my bath increased and I did not add any chemistry. Why could that be?

A: There are a couple of different things happening, but more than likely you are removing ionic contaminant and you should probably consider titration for your method. If its just a small change in the percent of concentration, then it's probably just normal variability in your readings. However, if it's a drastic change, then we need to consider titration for your process.

Q: Where can I get either of the kits that you talked about?

A: The conductivity meter is available at any industrial supply house. It is a common meter and has many uses; not only measuring chemical concentration of an aqueous wash bath. The titration kit is something KYZEN assembles so it's something you can order directly from us.

Q: It looks like my readings are good, but my parts are not coming out clean, why could this be happening?

A: We might want to consider a different method for measuring the chemical concentration. If you're removing the ionic contaminants using conductivity, that could be affecting your results and you might be getting a false chemical concentration reading. So, once again, it's just something that we have to look at in an individual basis so feel free to reach out to your KYZEN Regional Manager.