

SMT Stencil Cleaning Series: Compatibility & Nano-Coating Session Questions and Answers

Q: Are nano-coatings compatible with an understencil wipe process?

A: Yes. Typically in your understencil wipe process, the nano-coatings on the surface of the stencil that the squeegee comes across, the understencil will have a little exposure through the apertures. We've done significant testing to prove that these are compatible. If you have a specific combination in mind, please feel reach out to us.

Q: How do I know when a nano-coating has been affected?

A: There is two-part answer to this. With a wipe-on coating, we recommend the dyne test for that and after you clean the stencil you can go ahead and run that dyne solution across. It's a pretty go or no go test. With cured-on coating, your visual indication the surface tension test is also great for that as well.

Q: How often should I check to see if my nano-coating is holding up?

A: For the wipe-on, initially when you're first starting up a process, I would recommend testing after you cycle each cleaning cycle just to make sure. Once you've got a good feel for how long that coating is going to last, you check it periodically after that. For the cured-on coatings, I would say you check initially through visual changes but overall they hold up really well.

Q: Without testing a lot of products, how do I know which cleaning chemistry works best for my stencil and process?

A: Reach out to us and we can talk to you about what you're looking at as far as the process goes. You already have a stencil cleaning process in place we can help target what product will work for whatever nano-coating that you're interested in. If you have a specific one in mind feel free to reach out.