

Fastener Plant Cleaning Checklist

Six machines, four soils, one schedule. Print it, assign an owner, tick it off.

Companion to: How to Clean Fastener Manufacturing Equipment | eliteaquachem.com/blog



Line / machine: _____ Owner: _____ Month: _____

EVERY SHIFT

- ☐ **COLD HEADER**
Wipe the die and transfer area
- ☐ **THREAD ROLLER**
Clear fines from dies and slides at every changeover
- ☐ **WASHER**
Skim floating tramp oil off the bath
- ☐ **QUENCH TANK**
Check oil level; look for water, foam or sludge
- ☐ **ALL LINES**
Note any residue, stains or odour on parts

WEEKLY

- ☐ **COLD HEADER**
Check sump magnets and filters
- ☐ **WASHER**
Titrate the bath; confirm working temperature (60 to 80 °C is common on barrel lines)
- ☐ **WASHER**
Water-break test on sample parts
- ☐ **FURNACE**
Burn off manual probes
- ☐ **RINSE TANKS**
Dump and refill on the agreed schedule

MONTHLY

- ☐ **PICKLING / PHOSPHATING**
Desludge tanks; log the volume removed
- ☐ **QUENCH OIL**
Send a sample for analysis; compare with last month
- ☐ **HEAT EXCHANGERS**
Record the temperature rise across each unit
- ☐ **THREAD ROLLER**
Inspect dies under good light; record wear
- ☐ **WASHER**
Clean nozzles, strainers and the oil separator

QUARTERLY OR AT OIL CHANGE

- ☐ **COLD HEADER**
Flush the sump; degrease the bed with low-foam alkaline cleaner
- ☐ **TANK COILS AND WALLS**
Acid descale with inhibitor at 0.1 to 0.3% of bath volume
- ☐ **COOLING CIRCUITS**
Descale if the temperature rise is trending up; flush to neutral
- ☐ **SEALS AND PAINT**
Patch-test any new cleaner before full use
- ☐ **REVIEW**
Which machines needed unplanned cleaning?

Pick chemistry by soil

- Oil, drawing soap and fines: alkaline degreaser (low-foam for spray and ultrasonic systems).
- Water scale on coils, jackets and exchangers: inhibited acid descaler, then rinse to neutral.
- Frequencies are starting points. Adjust them to your volumes and your machine maker's manual.
- Safety: lock out machines before cleaning, wear the PPE named on the SDS, never mix chemicals.

Not sure which chemistry fits a machine? WhatsApp us a photo of the residue.

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