

Environment Matters

Degreasing, coolant use and abuse, swarf handling and waste disposal are not sexy, but they are issues that all metalcutters/metalformers have to tackle. Machinery's new, one-day event is designed to answer manufacturers' queries and deliver solutions

Environment Matters (www.machinery.co.uk/environmentmatters), to be held at the Hilton Hotel, Warwick on Tuesday 11 September this year, will allow you to discuss issues related to all of the above with up to 20 experts.

Already Turbex (degreasing), MecWash/Aqua-Save (degreasing/water recycling), Kitagawa Europe (air filtration), Eclipse Magnetics (coolant condition maintenance) and Air Cleaning Systems (coolant/oil mist/smoke filtration) have signed up for the event. Scheduled six weeks ahead of the final deadline for UK implementation of the Solvent Emissions Directive – October 31, if you are concerned that there may still be solvent issues you need to address, this one-on-one discussion event on 11 September should be in your diary, too.

ON YOUR TRIKE

The Solvent Emissions Directive (SED) affects those who are still using solvents to clean workpieces



or components – typically Trike or trichloroethylene. Solvents can still be used, but modern equipment is required to support their safe and legal use. Of course, switching to an alternative process, such as aqueous, is possible, but aqueous is not a drop-in replacement for solvents. Solvents have a very wide

application range; aqueous systems need to be more part or process specific. Are you up to speed? Talk to the experts at *Environment Matters*.

COOL ABOUT COOLANTS?

Coolants are not just a health and environmental issue, there are cost implications, too. What coolants are available? Can your company rationalise? Can it extend coolant life, reduce



consumption and maintenance, boost machine availability, or reduce disposal costs? Talk to the experts at *Environment Matters*.

WASTED ASSETS?

Swarf is worth more dry than wet; more compacted than loose. So are you

Keeping it clean

Four MecWash Midi cleaning stations are now operational at Renishaw's new plant satisfy even ToFSIMS analysis (Time-of-flight secondary ion mass spectrometry) – undertaken at Bristol University.

As a result, the 330,000 components per month produced at Renishaw's Stonehouse and Wotton-under-Edge facilities are achieving the high levels of cleanliness required for a range of applications in industries as diverse as medical, forensics, calibration, aerospace and automotive, where Renishaw is recognised as a major producer of probing systems and calibration equipment.

Each of the four MecWash Midi installations – three at Stonehouse and the other at Wotton-under-Edge – benefit from a built-in Aqua-Save wash water treatment system which cleans and recycles the wash and rinse solutions. Consequently, the wash installations do not need a drain connection allowing them to be sited where required within the production lines.

Using MecWash rotational washing technology, the Midis' choice of programmes provides rotational flood immersion washing, rinsing, final rinsing, high performance filtration, oil separation, and hot air and vacuum drying. This ensures that material such as metal swarf, coolant and auto de-burring residue is removed from each component ahead of further assembly operations that take place at Renishaw's plants – both in the UK and Ireland. The systems also provide a clean, bright, residue-free surface finish without spots and stains which is paramount to the highly aesthetic appearance of the final product.

"Apart from the installation of the machines, we also worked closely with the customer to develop a highly effective and versatile component handling system," comments MecWash sales director Paul Young. "Each wash programme accommodates two metal trays, loaded from waist height and indexed during loading through 180°, into which perforated plastic inserts are located. Individually these can accommodate a wide range of component sizes – from six to 320 units per load – but importantly, all are held in position without the risk of metal-to-metal contact. This reflects both on the precise manufacturing procedures that Renishaw uses and the importance of high quality operations at every stage of production."

The three Midi installations at Stonehouse are able to accommodate a range of manufacturing materials including stainless steel, aluminium and brass – direct from the wide range of machining processes. The use of ultrasonics in conjunction with the rotational wash technology in two of the machines had been specified to remove surface staining that could arise from dried-on coolant.

missing out on a better return on this metalcutting by-product?

Talk to the experts at *Environment Matters*.

UNNECESSARY COSTS?

The cost of disposing of hazardous waste has increased and is set to increase further. Can your company minimise or eliminate hazardous waste?

Talk to the experts at *Environment Matters*.

UNHEALTHY AIR?

Today's factories should not be oil mist filled and smelly. But not all companies are up to the standard and many may not know what the standard is. Do you know where you stand in relation to today's accepted benchmarks? Talk to the experts at *Environment Matters*.

Not an exhibition, this event is geared towards one-to-one discussions, so take the opportunity to discuss all your shopfloor environment issues in a single day on Tuesday, 11 September. □