



Metal Cleaner Recycling

Houghton recycling program reduces waste in spray washer operations in a truck manufacturing plant

Customer's Unique Situation

- A manufacturer of truck transmissions outsources its chemical management at many of its manufacturing plants to Houghton's FLUIDCARE™ division.
- Plant managers faced the time-consuming, weekly task of changing the metal cleaner in their 64 single-stage spray washers.
- Up to 13 washers were cleaned each day before being recharged with fresh Houghton Cleaner 2545-70. More than 300 gallons of dirty cleaner was dumped into the wastewater treatment plant sump each week.

Driving Successful Outcomes

- The recycling program eliminated any complaints of odor and gained operator acceptance.
- Reduced the amount of virgin cleaner purchased from 1,525 gallons/month to 735 gallons/month (52%).
- Decreased gallons of cleaner used per man hour by 57%.

The Houghton Difference

- During a routine process optimization audit, Houghton's FLUIDCARE representative recommended a recycling program utilizing membrane technology to reduce waste.
- Houghton installed a Ransohoff Waste Wizard (ultra-filter membrane technology) and a 300-gallon tote that is split into two 150-gallon compartments for filtering recycled and dirty cleaning fluid.
- Houghton added the necessary pumps, filters, valves and piping required to make pumping out the dirty cleaner and its replacement with recycled cleaner a seamless process.