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ColDip Midnight 1500 Offers Enhanced Color

Black Zinc Passivate Offers Consistent Color and Cost Control

BY TIM PENNINGTON EDITOR

Simplicity is the goal for Columbia Chemical in its release of ColDip Midnight 1500, its newest black trivalent passivate for zinc plating.

Brett Larick, Columbia Chemical president, says the passivate works well over acid chloride zinc in both ammoniated and non-ammoniated systems, and on cyanide zinc, alkaline cyanide-free zinc and zinc-iron/cobalt alloy deposits.

He says the simple three-part system—which allows for maximum color control and provides a consistent black appearance—was released earlier to an initial round of plating facilities where it was met with great success.

“We have invested heavily in our research and development sector over the past few years,” Larick says. “We are pleased to be able to come to market with proven products that are solving the challenges of our customers and simplifying surface finishing as a whole.”

ColDip Midnight 1500 is a finish that exceeds 168 hours of neutral salt spray to white corrosion without a sealer, and exceeds 240 hours to first white corrosion when topcoated with Columbia Chemical sealers and topcoats.

Columbia’s technical field team reported numerous positive comments from customers who liked the consistent and considerably darker finish, and the rugged bath which maintains its integrity and salt spray results.

Jeffrey Boehmer, director of domestic business at Columbia

Chemical, says they had several goals in mind when developing ColDip Midnight 1500.

“We wanted to provide the best corrosion protection, but we also wanted to make this easy for our customer and not make it cost prohibitive,” he says. “It’s a very straightforward application, and it’s based off a product that we introduced over a year ago, but with a simple three-part system to offer better control.”

The company has gotten quite a bit of traction with the two-part system already on the market, and the ColDip Midnight 1500 does even more.

“With a simpler system, we are also able to do a better cost analysis on how we can reduce a shop’s processing expenses, which is a huge advantage,” he says.

Boehmer adds that the new, easy-to-control, cost-effective black passivate is a strong addition to Columbia Chemical’s existing line of trivalent chromium-based passivates, which are hexavalent chromium-free and comply with current ELV, RoHS and REACH regulations. The complete passivate line offers options in clear, blue, yellow, black or iridescent.

“There is a greater consistency of color through a wide current density range,” Boehmer says of the additional benefits of ColDip Midnight 1500. Using feedback from shops on Columbia Chemical’s previous two-part system has made the newer process even better for its customers, he says.

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