

Cleaning the hard to clean

Case Study: Ultrex Electro Cleaner HC

# Removing Stamping and Cutting Oils Without A Pre-Treatment Step

## The Challenge

A leading manufacturer of electronic connectors needed a more efficient way to remove stamping and cutting oils prior to electroplating. Their existing process relied on loose-piece tumbling, a labor-intensive step that consumed excessive time, manpower, and water. The engineering team was tasked with finding a streamlined solution that maintained high-quality cleaning for multi-metal components.

## The Approach

Hubbard-Hall introduced **Ultrex Electro Cleaner HC**, a moderately alkaline cleaner (pH 9-10) designed for versatile cleaning applications. This innovative product functioned as both a soak cleaner and an electro cleaner, making it an ideal fit for treating a wide range of metals such as brass, copper alloys, steel, and zinc. Its ability to prepare anodic surfaces effectively eliminated the need for a separate pre-cleaning operation.

Hubbard-Hall worked closely with the manufacturer to integrate the new chemistry into their operations. **Ultrex Electro Cleaner HC** was deployed on both barrel and strip lines—serving as a soak cleaner and electro cleaner on the former and as an electro cleaner on the latter. This approach eliminated inefficiencies while ensuring the components were cleaned to high standards.

## Executive Summary

**Hubbard-Hall's dual-purpose cleaner, Ultrex Electro Cleaner HC, streamlined operations for a manufacturer of electronic connectors, delivering significant resource savings and improved efficiency.**

- Eliminated a labor-intensive pre-cleaning step.
- Reduced water consumption by 70%.
- Delivered superior cleaning for multi-metal components.

## The Outcome

The adoption of **Ultrex Electro Cleaner HC** transformed the cleaning process. By removing the need for the time-consuming pre-cleaning tumbling step, the company significantly reduced labor costs. Additionally, the dual-purpose cleaner reduced water consumption by 70%, aligning with sustainability goals. With this streamlined process, production became faster, more cost-effective, and environmentally friendly—all without compromising quality.

"By eliminating a pre-cleaning step and using a single cleaner for two distinct purposes, Ultrex Electro Cleaner HC has been a game-changer. It streamlined manpower costs and reduced our water consumption by 70%."

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