Laser EX 50

DESCRIPTION

Laser EX 50 is a peroxide-based chemical polishing product that will provide a high luster on brass and most copper alloys. In many cases the Laser EX 50 will give a chemical alternative to buffing.

Parts processed in the laser system can subsequently be plated, oxidized, soldered, or lacquered. The high luster produced by Laser EX 50 is superior to that obtained in the conventional chromic or nitric acid based bright-dips. It is not a direct replacement for these solutions, longer immersion times and extra process tanks are required for optimum results of the Laser EX 50 process.

Features and Benefits

- Non-fuming
- Brilliant, leveled finish
- No nitric acid, chromic acid or cyanides
- Resists tarnishing
- Effective on a wide range of copper alloys
- Eliminate need for hand polishing
- Produce an ideal pre-plate finish

TYPICAL APPLICATIONS

- Chemical polishing of brass components
- Improve Buffing yields
- Rack or Barrel
OPERATING PARAMETERS

Solution make-up: The operating solution is easily made up by adding 21% by volume of LASER® EX 50 to water (21 gal of Laser EX 50 per 100 gal of total volume) and 0.6% by volume of 66° Be sulfuric acid (5 pints per 100 gal). The addition and maintenance of the sulfuric acid level is critical.

Provision for both heating and cooling of the Laser EX 50 solution is required.

Operating range: 17.5 - 24.5% by volume Laser EX 50
0.5 - 0.7% by volume of 66° Be sulfuric acid

Note 1: The recommended Laser EX 50 operating range will provide the optimum results for most applications. Should you feel that your finish requirements cannot be met by the recommended operating parameters, please contact your Hubbard-Hall representative for a detailed written procedure.

Note 2: It is important that the sulfuric acid concentration be maintained in the above range at all times. If the sulfuric acid is allowed to deplete, the hydrogen peroxide will become very active and readily decompose. All baths should be brought to the upper end of the sulfuric acid sulfuric acid range when the line will be idle and heat lowered to the Laser® EX 50 bath. Never shut down a Laser® EX 50 bath without adding back the required sulfuric acid.

Temperature: 100° - 115°F Do not exceed 120°F

Cooling of the bath will be required when continuous production is being run. For best results, a bath loading of 0.5 ft²/gallon should not be exceeded.

Time: 1 - 5 minutes

Brightness is dependent upon immersion time in the solution and alloy composition. A normal treatment of 2 minutes at 110°F will produce an excellent luster on brass. Although leveling will continue to increase with longer treatment time, chemical consumption will be excessive for the slight increase in leveling. The finish on copper is bright but to a lesser degree than 70/30 brass. Cycle time may be best defined by the time it takes to form a brown oxide "skin" on the work.

Agitation: work rod agitation
Laser EX 50

Equipment:
- Tanks: pvc, polypropylene, polyethylene, 304 or 316 stainless steel
- Heaters: quartz, teflon or 316 stainless steel
- Cooling coils: 304 or 316 stainless steel
- Ventilation: required
- Fixtures, racks, & baskets: polypropylene, pvc, nylon, or stainless steel

PROCESS CYCLE

Parts must be free of oil and other soils to insure uniform brightening.

Cycle 1 - (scale free surface)
1) Alkaline soak clean in CLEANER S-139, 10 oz/gal, 160°F, 3 minutes.
2) Cold water rinse.
3) Activate in 5-10% by volume sulfuric acid, room temperature, 1 - 2 minutes.
4) Cold water rinse.
5) Chemical polish in Laser EX 50, 110°F, 1-5 minutes.
6) Cold water rinse.
7) Brilliant dip in 10% by volume of LASER® BRILLIANT DIP, room temperature, 30-60 seconds.
8) Cold water rinse.
9) Dry.

ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES

POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE METHOD:

Maintenance of bath - the Laser EX 50 and sulfuric acid concentrations can be easily analyzed and accurately replenished using the following analytical procedures.

ANALYSIS OF LASER® EX 50
1) Pipette a 2 ml sample into a 100 ml volumetric flask and dilute to the mark with DI water.
2) Pipette a 10 ml sample of the diluted solution into a 250 ml erlenmeyer flask and add 75 mls of DI water.
3) Add 5 mls of concentrated sulfuric acid.
4) Titrate with 0.1 N potassium permanganate solution until a pink color remains for 10-20 seconds.
5) Record the mls of titrant used.
% BY VOLUME OF Laser EX 50 = 1.5 MLS OF 0.1N POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE USED

ANALYSIS OF Laser EX 50 - CERIC SULFATE METHOD

Chemicals Required

1. Sulfuric acid solution - 50% by volume.
2. Ferroin Indicator - Mix 1.3 grams of 1,10-phenanthroline with 0.7 grams of ferrous sulfate heptahydrate and dissolve in 100 ml DI water.
3. Standard Ceric Sulfate Solution - 0.1N. Slowly add 30 ml conc. sulfuric acid to 500 ml DI water with constant stirring, then add 63.25 grams of ceric ammonium sulfate dihydrate and mix until dissolved. Add DI water to 1 liter in a volumetric flask.

PROCEDURE

1. Pipette a 2 ml sample into a 100 ml volumetric flask and dilute to the mark with distilled water.
2. Pipette a 10 ml sample of the diluted solution into a 250 ml Erlenmeyer flask and add 75 ml of DI water.
3. Add 5 ml of sulfuric acid solution and mix.
4. Add 1 ml Ferroin Indicator.
5. Titrate with 0.1N Ceric Sulfate solution until the color changes from pale red to pale blue.

Calculation

% BY VOLUME OF Laser EX 50 = 1.5 MLS OF CERIC SODA USED.

For every 1% low in Laser EX 50 concentration, add 0.9 fluid ounces of Laser EX 50 per gallon of operating solution (7 mls of Laser EX 50 per liter of operating solution).

The Laser EX 50 should be maintained between 17-22.5% by volume.

Analysis of sulfuric acid

1) Pipette 5 ml sample into a 250 ml erlenmeyer flask.
2) Add 75 mls of DI water.
3) Add 5 drops of methyl orange indicator.
4) Titrate with 0.1 N sodium hydroxide to a yellow endpoint.
5) Record the mls of titrant used.

% BY VOLUME SULFURIC ACID = 0.05 X MLS OF 0.1N SODIUM HYDROXIDE USED
For every 0.1% low in sulfuric acid, add 0.13 fluid ounces of concentrated sulfuric acid per gallon of operating solution. (1 ml of concentrated sulfuric acid per liter of operating solution).

The sulfuric acid concentration must be maintained between 0.5 - 0.7% by volume for optimum polishing. Over additions of sulfuric acid will result in a diminished polish. This effect may be overcome by running.

**Analysis of copper**

Chemicals required
- Pan indicator, makeup:
  Dissolve 0.1 gram of pan indicator (1-(2-pyridylazo)-1-napthol) in 100 ml of methanol.
- 0.0575 M EDTA disodium salt solution, makeup:
  Dissolve 21.4 grams of deta disodium salt in 10 ml of concentrated ammonium hydroxide and 100 ml of distilled water, dilute up to 1 liter with distilled water.

1) Pipette 1.0 ml of Laser EX 50 solution into a 500 ml erlenmeyer flask.
2) Add 2 ml of concentrated ammonium hydroxide (28% by weight). The solution will gas vigorously. The color should be a blue violet.
3) Add 100 ml of distilled water and about 4 drops of pan indicator.
4) Titrate with 0.0575 M EDTA disodium salt solution until an endpoint color changes from blue violet to green.

**CALCULATIONS**

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(\text{ML OF 0.0575 M EDTA TITRANT}) \times (0.48) = \text{OZ/GAL COPPER (METAL)}
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(\text{ML OF 0.0575 M EDTA TITRANT}) \times (3.6) = \text{GRAM/LITER COPPER (METAL)}
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**SAFETY REGULATIONS**

Laser EX 50 contains hydrogen peroxide. Hydrogen peroxide is strongly oxidative and acts caustically on the eyes and skin. Self ignition is possible if the liquid is soaked up by an inflammable material. Protect eyes and skin.

Eye contact: Wash thoroughly with water. Contact a doctor.
Skin contact: Wash with water.
STORAGE AND HANDLING

Laser EX 50 is a hydrogen peroxide mixture and should be stored in original vented container in a dry location, out of sun and away from heat. Empty containers should be diluted with large quantities of water and discarded. A spill or leak should be quickly flushed away by flooding with water.

Avoid contamination from any source, including metals, dust and especially organic materials. Avoid contact with combustible materials. Do not get in eyes - wear goggles. Avoid contact with skin - wear neoprene, butyl rubber or vinyl gloves. Wash thoroughly after handling. Do not breathe mists or vapors; adequate ventilation should be provided.

In the event the Laser EX 50 drum begins to vent, immediately apply a cold water spray to cool the drum. Do not physically handle the drum. Also, contact HUBBARD-HALL INC. for further assistance.

WASTE DISPOSAL

Spent solutions contain hydrogen peroxide and sulfuric acid (although to varying degrees). They will contain dissolved metals - copper, zinc, lead, etc. They do not contain chelators. Spent solutions should never be stored in non-vented tanks or containers. The spent solution should also be kept acidic until such time as any remaining peroxide can be released in a controlled manner.

Laser solutions can be treated with other waste streams or they can be segregated and batch treated independently. If a clarifier is used in the separation of solids and liquids, the batch method is preferred. Small gas bubbles produced by peroxide destruction can lift previously precipitated sludge and cause "floaters". If membrane filters, cartridge filters, sand filters, filter presses, etc., are used, then everything can be mixed.

Hydrogen peroxide is generally unstable on the alkaline side. Since laser solutions are acidic, they require adjustment with caustic, caustic potash, lime, soda ash, etc. When the pH rises above 8.0, an effervescence will occur. This will vary with the concentration of peroxide. Certain dissolved metals like iron, lead, copper - will accelerate this.

This breakdown should be allowed to run to completion - as evidenced by the absence of gassing. If the dwell time is very short, sodium bisulfite can be used to expedite the process.
When the pH was raised, the various metals will precipitate in their hydroxide forms. If the laser solution is mixed with chelate-containing wastes, some can remain in solution. Care should be taken to prevent this.

After metal precipitation and peroxide breakdown are complete, the waste stream can be handled in the normal fashion. The addition of coagulants and flocculants can proceed as normal.

**WARRANTY**

THE QUALITY OF THIS PRODUCT IS GUARANTEED ON SHIPMENT FROM OUR PLANT. IF THE USE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE FOLLOWED, DESIRED RESULTS WILL BE OBTAINED. SINCE THE USE OF OUR PRODUCTS IS BEYOND OUR CONTROL, NO GUARANTEE EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED IS MADE AS TO THE EFFECTS OF SUCH USE, OR THE RESULTS TO BE OBTAINED.
Comparison of Square Footage Polished Using Laser EX 50 to Commercial Hydrogen Peroxide