

# Better, Safer, and Faster: Improving Copper Cleaning and Wastewater Treatment

“Hubbard-Hall values their customers enough to workday in and day out to earn their complete trust.” Steve Leonetti, IMC Vice President

## The Challenge

IMC is a global leader in the manufacturing of anodes. The company operates out of a sixty million dollar, highly automated facility with newly installed, state-of-the-art cleaning equipment.

IMC Vice President, Steve Leonetti hired Hubbard-Hall to improve the organization’s cleaning chemistry and process performance. He wanted to replace labor-intensive processes with a LEAN one that was compatible with their new equipment.

In addition, IMC was looking for ongoing access to a technical team that could become a trusted partner to the company's internal people.

## The Approach

Hubbard Hall’s technical experts worked alongside IMC’s team to audit the pre-treat area. They discovered that inconsistent chemistry and consequences from their current wastewater additives were creating an iron-laden copper filter cake.

Working together, Hubbard-Hall and IMC developed a more efficient cleaning and wastewater treatment process. This included Hubbard-Hall’s Acid Brite 150, Lusterclean 24, and AquaPure.

“Hubbard-Hall's chemicals are safer for our employees to handle, better for the environment, and allow for more control in the overall process,” Steve Leonetti, VP IMC.



**Better chemistry. Better business.**

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Once the new chemistry and process were put in place, Hubbard Hall's experts conducted training for upper management and operators on how to run the process, providing visual jar testing demos and reporting templates to augment their training.

## The Outcome

Hubbard-Hall's recommended process improvements enabled IMC to reduce its three-step cleaning process to a single step. The new, more efficient, and environmentally-friendly chemistry allowed IMC to maintain their industry-standard filming properties on phosphorous copper and deliver superior anode cleanliness more quickly. The filter cake also saw an improvement to its copper content resulting in an increased recycling value.

Hubbard Hall continues to provide routine technical support and visits to ensure that the new processes continue to perform at peak levels.

## Our People. Your Problem Solvers

Expertise you can trust. 32% of Hubbard-Hall associates are in tech support, customer service or sales. This means that you get answers fast while the rest of our team gets your order delivered on time and in spec.

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