

## Chemask® WF Case Study

### The Problem

While operating a printed circuit board manufacturing operation with a closed loop aqueous cleaning system, Al Schmidt, Technology Manager of Schippers & Crew, was running into a problem with their process. After two weeks they would have to regenerate their ion exchange columns, and weekly they would have to clean residual build-up out of their aqueous cleaning system. This was becoming extremely costly and time consuming, and they were losing production time.

### The Solution

The problem they faced was excessive ionic contamination was entering their system and causing the columns life span to be minimized. Although flux and handling soils can generate some residual ionic contamination, such sources would not generate the amount of contamination they were seeing. By switching their temporary spot mask to Chemask® WF, improvements were quickly realized. With the addition of a micron bag filter and the use of Chemask® WF, the ion exchange columns are now lasting at least 12 weeks, and the following savings have been obtained:

#### A) Time Saved In Labor = 208 hours / year

The substantial labor savings occurred in the reduction of equipment cleaning from once each week to once every three weeks. The previous spot mask reacted with the flux and coated the entire process.

#### B) Column Regeneration Savings = \$2,070 / year

At last notice, the columns had lasted for over three months, versus two weeks with their previous product.

#### C) Production Opportunity Realized = \$520,000 / year

While the cleaning process is down, no production can occur. This is the realized additional production the process now runs due to decreased down time.

How much time and money can Chemask® WF save you? Call ITW Chemtronics at 800-645-5244 and ask for your FREE In-House Evaluation Today!

**TECHNICAL HOT LINE 1-800-TECH-401**

## **Availability**

### **Chemask® WF Solder Masking Agent**

*The water filterable temporary solder masking agent*

CWF8        8 oz. squeeze bottle  
CWF1        1 gallon

## **USAGE INSTRUCTIONS**

Consult Technical Data Sheet for full usage instructions.

Read MSDS carefully prior to use.

**Mix well each before using.** Make sure the recirculating system contains a minimum 10 micron filter before the resin beds.

When applying by hand using squeeze bottle, syringe or spatula, insure that all areas of the pre-tinned hole are evenly covered on the side to be soldered. For screening applications, properly clean and prepare screen, then apply masking agent in the same manner as solder paste. Automatic dispensing equipment may also be used as appropriate.

This information is believed to be accurate. It is intended for professional end users having the skills to evaluate and use the data properly. ITW CHEMTRONICS® does not guarantee the accuracy of the data and assumes no liability in connection with damages incurred while using it.

## **MANUFACTURED BY:**

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## **TECHNICAL & APPLICATION ASSISTANCE**

ITW Chemtronics® provides a technical hotline to answer your technical and application related questions. The toll-free number is:  
**1-800-TECH-401 (1-800-832-4401)**.

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