

Maintaining the maintainer



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MAINTENANCE CHEMICALS ARE VITAL TO THE EFFICIENT PERFORMANCE OF ANY PRODUCTION FACILITY – INCLUDING THE ONE WHERE THEY ARE MADE. AS YOU WOULD EXPECT, AT THE AMBERSIL FACTORY, UNLIMITED ACCESS TO THESE MRO CHEMICALS IS USEFUL, ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THE CHALLENGES FACED BY THE ENGINEERING TEAM.

Out in the open

Raw materials, predominantly bulk chemicals, arrive onsite and are processed/offloaded into the bulk storage tanks located in the 'tank farm' outside of the main building. Here the complex tangle of pipes, valves, controls and the tanks themselves allow the on-demand supply of the chemical constituents that enable Ambersil to process the base chemicals into useful products. As with any structures exposed to the elements, maintenance is an on-going task, made more complex by the nature of the exotic solvents and gasses stored. Control valves are cleaned with Amberklene FE10 (rapid drying solvent degreaser) then lubricated with Ambersil 40+ multi-purpose lubricant and Ambergrease EXL.

The chemical mixing and dosing is largely controlled by automated systems, so there is a significant need for electrical systems maintenance, using Ambersil Air Duster, PCB Cleaner, and (for the touch screens) Ambersil Universal Screen Cleaner. Where repair work is carried out on the steel infrastructure, whether it is welding (Ambersil Bioweld Anti-Spatter), drilling (Tufcut) or corrosion prevention (Cold Galvanise and Galva Colour); the Ambersil range offers every MRO solution required for right first time results.

Taking a bath

On the filling lines, the chemicals are turned into the finished Ambersil product. The conveyors, motors, bearings and chains of these lines require a variety of maintenance chemicals, along with the usual bearings, chains, motors and fasteners which are all part of the 'maintenance jigsaw'. Products such as Ambersil Dry Film Anti-Stick on guide rails to ensure smooth product flows, Chainspray on drive chains, and Amberklene FE10 to degrease bearings are used. Throughout the site, the recently NSF registered (food grade) Tufcut metal cutting lubricant and tapping fluid is used for drilling steel panels and supports during equipment repair and installation.

Before shipping, aerosols are pressure tested in a heated water bath. Water bath drive chains are lubricated with Ambersil Chainspray, bearings with Ambergrease EXL (due to its very low water washout), and Ambersil Copper Anti-Seize is used for drive wheel unit assembly – premium high-copper content and performance.

Finally, in the warehouse, a fleet of forklifts requires regular maintenance. Yet again, Ambersil products are used, including Battery Terminal Protector – with its colour-changing dye providing a visual warning

of acid leakage. General panel and surface cleaning is taken care of with Amberclens anti-static foaming cleaner.

Where "normal" isn't normal

The aggressive, unusual, or pervasive nature of the fluids and gasses utilised in the chemical industry mean that "normal" operating conditions for bearings, motors, and maintenance chemicals often lie at the edge of manufacturers' specifications. Fortunately, Ambersil provide the "Complete Chemical Solution™", with over 200 products formulated to the highest standards: including RAL matched paints, fast-drying zinc coatings in a range of finishes, and protective oils in multiple viscosities and with extensive industrial/military approvals. Ambersil also specialise in solvent degreasers and solvent technology, backed up with metalworking fluids, spatter releases, wipes, sealants, and much more. Equipment at the Ambersil plant experiences greater maintenance burdens than in most factories. However, unexpected downtime at the facility is virtually non-existent, thanks to the robust maintenance schedule and the use of Ambersil's own world-class quality maintenance chemicals, which perform every time.

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