



Don't stick with OKS

STICK WITH OKS FOR YOUR SCREW LUBRICATION, AND YOU CAN BE SURE YOUR SCREWS WON'T STICK NEXT TIME YOU COME TO UNDO THEM, DURING MAINTENANCE OR REPAIR OPERATIONS.

A single seized-up screw can cause problems out of all proportion to its size. And when you multiply that by the huge number of screws to be found in a chemical plant, you're looking at a problem which can, literally, screw up everything.

For example, at a routine shutdown of a refinery in Vienna, it was estimated that around 130,000 screws, of sizes M5 to M130, had to be loosened and checked at pipings, instrumentation and process control devices, valves, fittings, tanks and containers, and heat exchangers.

If only a tiny percentage had proved difficult or impossible to release, the time wasted would have been significant. And in cases where a seized screw has necessitated cutting out the affected joint and length of line, the time wasted and money spent soon escalate.

Spare me the copper

Of course, every maintenance engineer worth their salt knows the kind of problems that can arise, and generally takes steps to avoid them with some form of lubrication to the screws.

Unfortunately this is often the cheapest non-specific solution, using a copper paste.

Although copper can be effective in the short-term and the right conditions, most screws are in place for the long-term, and in the chemical industry the conditions are usually far from the right ones. So when the time comes to undo the screws which were lubricated, perhaps as long ago as 10 years, with copper paste, they can be just as solidly seized as ones with no lubrication at all.

That's why it makes sense to use a lubricant which has been proven in the chemical industry, and developed by a leader in the field.

More than OK

OKS, a manufacturer with 30 years' tribological expertise, is the leader in the German MRO lubricant market, and specialises in industrial greases and high-performance oils for maintenance and repair purposes. The company's expertise are pastes and greases, with a range of no fewer than 16 different OKS assembly pastes available. These range from basic copper- and aluminium-based pastes to complex formulations with a range of additives, developed for specific applications.

The high standard of the products and their manufacturing processes is evidenced by their breadth of certifications: from ISO 9001: 2008 for quality, and ISO 14001: 2004 for environmental standards, to OHSAS 18001: 2007 for work protection.

Within this high-quality range, OKS 217 is the high-temperature, high-purity paste proven in use in the chemical industry.

Chemistry for chemicals

The formulation of OKS 217 paste makes it particularly effective for use in the chemical industry. The potential for contact with aggressive substances,

and the inherent dangers should reactivity or corrosion lead to leaking connections, make this a particularly challenging environment for a lubricant paste.

To meet these challenges, OKS 217 has been formulated from a semi-synthetic oil base, with a mixture of various solid lubricants, and additives for additional protection against, for example, corrosion. The benefit of the specially created combination of solid lubricants is the prevention of reaction with metal surfaces, which removes the risk of burning together.

As well as an extremely low metal and metal alloy content, the OKS 217 lubricant paste contains only traces of sulphur, chlorine, and fluorine, whilst there are no lead compounds, sulphides, chlorides or fluorides present at all. This helps to greatly reduce the possibility of reactivity with other chemicals which may be present in the environment in which the paste is used.

Though the paste may not normally come into contact with process materials, it only takes the failure of a single gasket for it to happen.

Apply now

OKS 217 paste is applied when the screws are being tightened, but its main benefit is when the screws come to be loosened: whether that's in a few months or a few years.

However, the paste does also aid assembly and tightening, by ensuring a constant co-efficient of sliding friction, enabling the optimal ratio of tightening torque and attainable pre-tension whatever the screw dimensions or the materials involved. At the same time, cold welding is avoided. Available in a 250g brush tin for easy application, in a 1kg tub, or in larger quantities, OKS 217 is as essential to tightening screws as a screwdriver.

Complementary OKS products for the chemical industry

OKS 1110

For lubrication of fittings, seals, plastic parts etc. in operation or assembly

OKS 611

For rust removal, lubrication

OKS 641

For rust removal, cleaning, protection and lubrication

OKS 701

For lubricating measuring instruments

OKS 2611

For cleaning lubrication points before use of lubricants

OKS 2621

For cleaning electrical contacts and switches

OKS 2801

For ensuring imperviousness of lines under pressure

