

Cleaning machines: Why and – even more important – how?

Every day machines are built to run one day after the other, notwithstanding the fact that conditions can be ever so different. But even the best precautionary measures can not stop smudge and grime to accumulate during production processes.



A well tended facility serves as a pretence of excellence for any company and at the same time it is a beacon of motivation for the staff. There are many reasons found for arguing the merits of machine cleansing for process safety and for extending service life of a machine. Functional components like tool magazines or intakes, clamping devices, energy lead chains, sensors (such as basing points, wear measuring devices) or monitoring equipment have to be cleared of cooling lubricants residues or turnings to guaranty continuing operations. Screens have to be cleansed just as well as guide-ways or the machine body itself. Increased hygiene keeps bacteria growth low, extends the service life of cooling lubricants, and safeguards the operator.

Precision work needs a clean environment and also, minimal lubricated machines lead to a higher pollution of the facility. Good reasons for regular machine cleaning! Schickert *Low Pressure Steam Cleaning* is basically a combination of low pressure (up to 8 bar) and 95 °C hot water – to which may be added in case should it be needed corrosion protection liquids – or cooling lubricants. Using a long pipe it is possible to clean even the most inaccessible parts inside and outside of the machine. The low pressure and water consumption of only 1.8 litres per minute (contrary to high pressure cleaning equipment) safeguards against damaging highly sensitive parts, such as sealing gaskets and sensors. Thus, turnings and chips are not driven under the guide-ways, the environment and operators are not endangered, and water inleakage is averted, keeping the machine's cooling lubricants from being diluted. Cleansing with cooling lubricants always uses the same media employed in the machine during operations.

Compared with other methods, such as manual cleaning with the help of tabs and aggressive cleansers, Schickert's method is more efficient and effective. Even parts difficult to access are cleaned and, most important, without the aid of chemicals, which could endanger operators and machines alike. The 60 litre tank enables self-sustaining work. A permanent water supply is not needed. Along with a special parts cleaning section machine parts can be dismantled and cleaned directly on the cleaning unit itself.

Thus, the operator disposes of a gentle and universally applicable cleansing method.

Contact

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