New Mold Release from Axel Increases Productivity When Compression Molding Auto Parts, and Saves on Material and Labor

MoldWiz 1970JB Also Eliminates Mold Corrosion and Reduces Safety/Health Concerns

Woodside, NY USA -- The use of a special mold release from Axel Plastics Research Laboratories improved productivity and achieved significant cost reductions for a large U.S. automotive molder that molds SMC (sheet molding compound), producing engine cross braces for General Motors.

The firm's proprietary SMC formulation is molded on nickel and chromed steel tools operating at 300F/150C. They were using a mold release of their own custom formulation that created a 5% active solution, which was applied to molds by spraying, in most cases prior to each molding cycle. While this formulation provided adequate release, there were several disadvantages:

- The customer's mixture was highly acidic; continual use and over-application were cited as the cause for mold pitting and corrosion.
- The solution was hazardous to store and handle.
- Spraying this mold release exposed workers to hazardous vapors.
- Over-application of this release resulted in transfer to molded parts, which was often difficult to remove.

Axel MoldWiz 1970JB Yields Positive Results

Axel supplied the molder with a water-based mold release -- MoldWiz 1970JB -- in concentrate form, which the customer diluted on site by adding 95 parts of water to 5 parts of MoldWiz 1970JB.

The results of using the Axel product were highly positive. Instead of applying mold release prior to every cycle, using MoldWiz 1970 has reduced required applications to between every third part and every 30th part, depending on the configuration of the mold cavity.

"This represents an increase in productivity and a significant cost savings to the molder," said Nancy Teufel, Technical Support Manager for Axel. "Further," she added, "the ease with which parts released from the molds has been judged to be equal or superior to what was achieved with the customer's own mixture, and the surface cosmetics of the parts were considered superior."

"In addition, better application techniques and easy release have also reduced the incidence of transfer of the release to molded parts," she noted. "And with MoldWiz 1970JB, should mold release contamination be present on any molded parts, it can be removed by simply washing with water."

Furthermore, because it is water based, the MoldWiz 1970JB reduces mold pitting and corrosion compared with the customer's acidic release, and is not hazardous to employees. Therefore, it has helped the molder to eliminate the source of mold corrosion and to achieve health and safety objectives.

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The 64-year-old, ISO 9001 registered company also offers over 600 process or resin specific process aid additives and external release agents under the trade names XTEND™ and MoldWiz®. All of AXEL's products are formulated from raw materials that comply with the chemical substance inventory lists of TOSCA, DSL, METI, EINECS, Australia and Korea. Customers are served both through direct sales and by a network of 32 stocking distributors serving 40 countries around the globe. AXEL encourages request for evaluation samples by visiting the company's web site at http://www.axelplastics.com.

For further information, technical data sheets or for the name of a representative in your area, please contact Nancy Teufel **at Axel, Box 77 0855, Woodside, New York 11377 (USA), toll free 800-332-Axel (2935) or 718-672-8300, email: info@axelplast.com.**

Caption:

New MoldWiz 1970JB improved productivity and achieved significant cost reductions for a large U.S. automotive molder that molds SMC (sheet molding compound), producing engine cross braces for General Motors. Available from Axel Plastics Research Laboratories, Woodside, NY USA.