THERMOPLASTICS



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CLEANERS AND DEGREASERS

Q) What is the difference between a mold cleaner and a degreaser or surface cleaner?

A) Mold cleaners work by dissolving all polymers with the exception of PE and PP, while surface cleaners and degreasers work by removing the buildup of materials such as oils, waxes and pastes. Lusin[®] Clean L 11 is an example of a degreaser while Lusin[®] Clean L 21 is an example of a mold cleaner.

Q) Can mold cleaners remove polyolefins?

A) Polyolefins cannot be dissolved; however, the main issue in trying to clean the mold is usually not the polymer itself but the additives, pigments and paints. These materials can be successfully removed with a mold cleaner.

Q) Are there additional advantages to using mold cleaners beyond the obvious?

A) Some engineered polymers have viscosity/MFI that tends to interrupt the passage of air through the mold air venting system. The use of mold cleaners is the best solution to remove the polymer residue in the air venting quickly while in process, avoiding the need to remove the mold from the machine to conduct the cleaning.

Q) Can Lusin[®] mold cleaners be used for high-gloss polished surfaces?

A) The additives in Lusin[®] mold cleaners are specifically formulated for the removal of plastic materials and will not affect metal. They can therefore be used on highgloss polished surfaces without any negative effects.



Q) Up to what maximum surface temperature can Lusin[®] mold cleaners be effectively used?

A) Solvent-based mold cleaners can usually be used up to 75°C. Above that temperature, the evaporation rate of the solvent is too high to effectively dissolve residue. Our Lusin[®] product range has mold cleaners that can work up to 150°C.

Q) Do Lusin® cleaners attack plastic surfaces?

A) Lusin[®] degreasers (surface cleaners) will not attack plastic. They are safe to use for removing oils and waxes from plastic parts.

Q) Why is Lusin[®] Clean L 21 ineffective in removing polymer residue on metal surfaces at elevated temperatures?

A) Lusin[®] Clean L 21 evaporates too quickly at temperatures above 75°C and cannot remain on the surface long enough to affect the polymer residues. In situations where the mold temperature is above 75°C, Lusin[®] Clean 101 F should be used.