

Vantage™ BIOACT™ EC-88 Inline Defluxer Case Study

Customer Multi-national electronic manufacturing services (EMS) company

Customer's Product High-reliability printed circuit boards (PCBs)

Product Info PCBs are used in the manufacture of testing and monitoring instruments for biomedical analysis, air quality testing, electrical/electronic calibration, and temperature monitoring.

Manufacturing Process PCBs are assembled using water-soluble solder paste.

Current Cleaning Process Following reflow, water-soluble flux residues are removed from PCBs with a high pH (13.4) cleaning solution in an aqueous inline cleaning system.

Problem The current cleaning solution required frequent bath change-outs. This results in higher-than-expected chemical usage and productivity loss due to cleaning system downtimes. The increase in operating costs threatened the viability of the services contract.

Solution Vantage proposed using **Vantage™ BIOACT™ EC-88 Inline Defluxer**. It is especially formulated to remove flux residues in the current inline cleaning system. BIOACT EC-88 is a highly-concentrated, proprietary electronics cleaner and defluxer formulated to remove flux residues and other contaminants such as fingerprints and oils.

Results Vantage BIOACT EC-88 Inline Defluxer exhibits high-flux loading capabilities. Usage of BIOACT EC-88 facilitated a reduction in both chemical usage and bath change-out frequency and minimized downtime repercussions. An overall improvement in productivity stabilized operating costs and helped secure the services contract for the EMS company.

Other Features

- Removes water-soluble, no-clean, RMA flux residues, and other contaminants during electronic component manufacturing and PCB assembly
- Lower alkalinity (10.1 pH at 10%) and corrosion inhibitors safeguard against attack of solder masks, solder joints, components
- High-flux loading capability
- Does not require defoamer or pH booster additives

Vantage Performance Materials

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BIOACT EC-88
improved
productivity
and reduced
operating costs.