From Cleaning Rags and Solvents to Dry Ice and Air

„Injection molders are focused on achieving more efficiency“. Under this title the K-Newspaper has collected the results from “market radar on injection technology 2019” of the Market research company Research Tools.

Among the interviewed producers of injection molded parts it was made clear that improvement on efficiency is the most important topic. The Swiss specialist on plastic injection molding, Stüdli Plast AG, confirms this trend by investing in dry ice blasting to clean the molds. The switch to this gentle and environmental friendly cleaning method results in a significant reduction of downtime in production.

„We tend to clean the molds earlier and so achieve a consistent cleaning result - specially with complicated, filigree molds“ summarizes Daniel Bolliger, workshop manager of Stüdli Plast AG, his first experiences with this new cleaning method. „But most of all we are much faster than with the conventional methods of cleaning by rags and solvents“, Bolliger continues. Stüdli Plast AG, after thorough evaluation, has decided to purchase the dry ice blasting unit ASCOJET 1208 of the swiss manufacturer ASCO Carbon Dioxide Ltd. This very compact device was designed for industrial use and distinguishes itself by easy handling and high efficiency. The nozzle accessories specially designed for the plastics industry enable easy cleaning of molds of all sizes and complexity, which makes it unnecessary to remove the molds for cleaning.

The advantages of dry ice blasting as a cleaning solution for plastic injection molding are obvious. The interaction of thermal and kinetic energy makes deposits or adhering residues disappear immediately. And this without influencing the geometry of the molds or leaving residues of the cleaning agent. "Dry ice literally ends in air“ Jose Fernandez closes his explanations to the functioning of dry ice blasting. Jose Fernandez is Area Sales Manager for Dry Ice Applications with ASCO Carbon Dioxide Ltd and has personally advised Stüdli Plast on their way when evaluating the perfect cleaning solution for their company.

For Jose Fernandez a top argument for the cleaning with dry ice is definitely that the molds must not be removed for cleaning or high tempered forms must not be cooled down and then warmed up again. Thanks to all these advantages dry ice cleaning is meanwhile established as standard in the industry. Be it for manual application or automated robot solution.
Captions:

Figure 1 – Removal of adhering residues with dry ice

Figure 2 – Daniel Bolliger (l.) talking shop with Jose Fernandez (r.)

About ASCO
Swiss ASCO CARBON DIOXIDE LTD is a provider of complete CO$_2$ and dry ice solutions with customers worldwide. The product range includes CO$_2$ Production and CO$_2$ Recovery Plants, ASCOJET Dry Ice Blasting Units, Dry Ice Production Machines, CO$_2$ Cylinder Filling Systems, CO$_2$ Vaporisers, CO$_2$ Storage Tanks, CO$_2$ Dosing Systems for Water Neutralisation and various other CO$_2$ and dry ice equipment. Thanks to this broad product range and more than 130 years of practical experience in the wide field of CO$_2$ and dry
ice, customers benefit from individual, complete CO₂ solutions from a single source. Since 2007 ASCO has been part of the international industrial gas enterprise Messer Group and is its competence centre for CO₂. By joining forces with the German BUSE Gastek GmbH & Co. KG, based in Bad Hönningen, in the year 2014, the expertise and product portfolio was pooled and significantly expanded. This applies in particular to the complex field of CO₂ recovery. ascoco2.com

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