

PALM-BASED GENERAL CLEANING AGENT: DEGREASER

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There are many types of industrial cleaning agents available in the market. For example, degreasers, cleaners, ink removers, paint strippers and numerous other industrial solvent-based products. However, most of the conventional cleaning agents are derived from petroleum. They posed environment and safety problems in the course of their applications. Since the enactment of the Clean Air Act 1990 (Environmental Protection Agency, USA), many conventional chlorinated, fluorocarbon and petroleum industrial solvents have been regulated out of market applications. Thus, there is a need and demand for an environment-friendly cleaning agent, which is biodegradable and safe to be used in short- and long-term.

In this respect, research efforts to expand palm oil utilization as well as to find new uses of palm oil and palm oil products have brought to the development of palm-based cleaning agent.

APPLICATIONS

Palm-based degreaser (*Figure 1*) is designed for a variety of non-aqueous degreasing applications. It is capable of removing grease, oil and carbon without using conventional toxic solvents. Therefore, it is useful for cleaning oily or greasy metal components, oily machine beds, painted surfaces and floors.

It is a versatile degreaser as it works well in a vast number of applications. Washing or cleaning processes are completed by a water rinse.

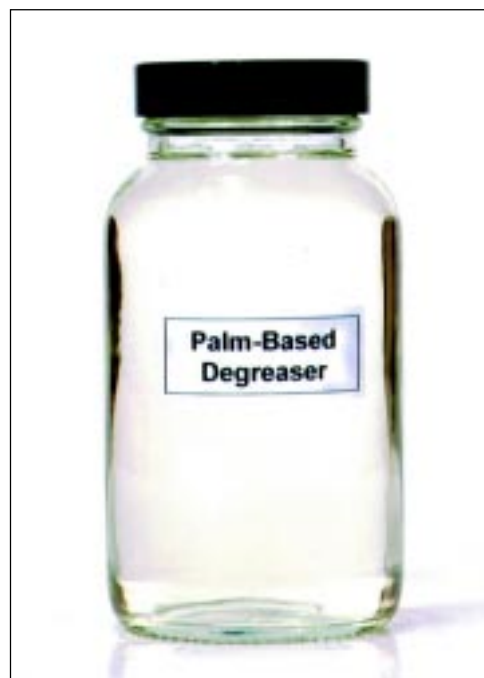


Figure 1.

ADVANTAGES

Generally, palm-based degreaser possesses high solvency power, low flammability and low toxicity. It leaves no residue and it is safe on metal and machineries' surfaces. It is odourless and thus, provides a user-friendly working environment. Besides exhibiting the most desired solvent related properties, they are derived from renewable raw materials. Therefore, they are environment-friendly, making it safe and advantageous to the end-users. Manufacturers on the other hand will not face regulatory issues. Low flammability or high flash point also provides enhanced safety during storage and transportation.

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