

# Waste minimization saves all

As part of a proactive role in waste management, Techmetals works closely with its customers to ensure that the part being finished has very little impact on the environment. With this in mind, it is important for the customer to properly prepare the part before it's sent to the finisher. The condition of the metal is key to making many of the new environmental initiatives successful. Minimizing the "residuals" by the customer before the part is finished lowers the amount of toxic byproducts created in the finishing process.

The following is a list of questions that directly relate to the quality of the final finish and the level of environmental costs associated with producing that finish:

- Are the parts shipped (any direction) under tight tarpaulins or in water proof vehicles?
- Is the part being designed with a minimum of blind areas?
- Is excess oil, chips, etc. removed from blind areas, threads, etc. before shipment to the finisher?
- Are "bleed-holes" provided?
- Was the right finish selected?
- Is the part fabricated from clean, cold worked or pre-picked stock?
- Are the drawing, forming and/or machining compounds easily cleanable and/or environmentally friendly?
- Are parts cleaned before welding?
- Is all slag, carbon, etc. removed?
- If applicable, are metal chips, shavings, burrs, machining oils, or

compounds removed before each manufacturing step, including heat treatments?

- Does the heat treated surface exhibit a smooth and uniform oxide surface after quench and temper?
- If the part exhibits any excessive scale, carbon, smut, red oxides, ect. after heat treat, is it immediately grit, shot or sandblasted, shot peened or otherwise cleaned?
- Is the blast media used to clean the parts clean itself?
- Are the oils used in the final machining, threading or other operations kept clean at all times?
- Are the finished parts stored in



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dry low humid areas?

- Are bulk packaged items kept out of plastic sealed containers?

If you answered "no" to any of the above questions, your finishing costs will continue to rise. If however you

answered "yes" to all questions, then you can be assured that your part was finished at the highest level of quality possible and at the same time contributing to a better environment.

Techmetals is committed to maintaining its position as a leader in the industry both environmentally and in customer service. ●