



World leader in metal recycling switches to Geiss UK for solvent supply

Ireland Alloys, based in Hamilton Scotland, has made the critical step to switch from "fresh" perchloroethylene to the ultra pure recycled perchloroethylene manufactured by Richard Geiss GmbH.

The switch has been made due to a very competitive pricing policy and the ability of Geiss UK Ltd to offer a truly sustainable product which conforms to all of the quality requirements demanded within the highly competitive aerospace industries.

In sales and marketing material many suppliers use phrases such as "sustainable" and "environmentally friendly". In reality most waste solvent is simply sent for incineration. Of course this makes sense for the manufacturers of so-called "fresh solvent".

We all know that the level of recycling, as an overall concept, is increasing exponentially as the earth's resources are depleting and the quest for both efficiency and economy takes an ever increasing role in impacting upon our lives.

The facts and figures are truly astounding, let's take a moment to examine some examples;

- ▶ Recycling metal uses about 74 percent less energy than making "new" metal.

- ▶ Recycling one ton of steel conserves 2500 pounds of iron ore, 1400 pounds of coal and 120 pounds of limestone (clearly from an American study).
- ▶ Cars are now manufactured to be 95% recyclable.
- ▶ 1 recycled tin can would save enough energy to power a television for 3 hours.
- ▶ 1 recycled glass bottle would save enough energy to power a computer for 25 minutes.
- ▶ 1 recycled plastic bottle would save enough energy to power a 60-watt light bulb for 3 hours.
- ▶ 70% less energy is required to recycle paper compared with making it from raw materials.

Clearly recycling is growing in all areas of manufacturing – but how many of us have stopped to consider just how important our personal or corporate attributes can be enhanced by further embracing the recycling approach and converting theory into practice? In addition, how can expanding our recycling

awareness so significantly have a positive influence on our operation's environmental accreditation and carbon footprint?

In one specific area the answer is now official. Consider the use of organic solvents used in manufacturing. A study entitled "Carbon Footprints Of Recycled Solvents", commissioned by The European Solvent Recycler Group (ESRG) and conducted by the University of Manchester based ETHOS Research (UK) has revealed some very interesting points.

The report confirms that the recycling of organic solvents such as those used in industrial cleaning and degreasing operations leads to significant environmental benefits when compared with using so called "virgin" solvents.

The report considers a wide range of influencing factors such as incineration costs when compared to recycling processes, packaging and shipment to the processing plant, utilities such as gas and electricity, raw materials and final transport costs to the next user.

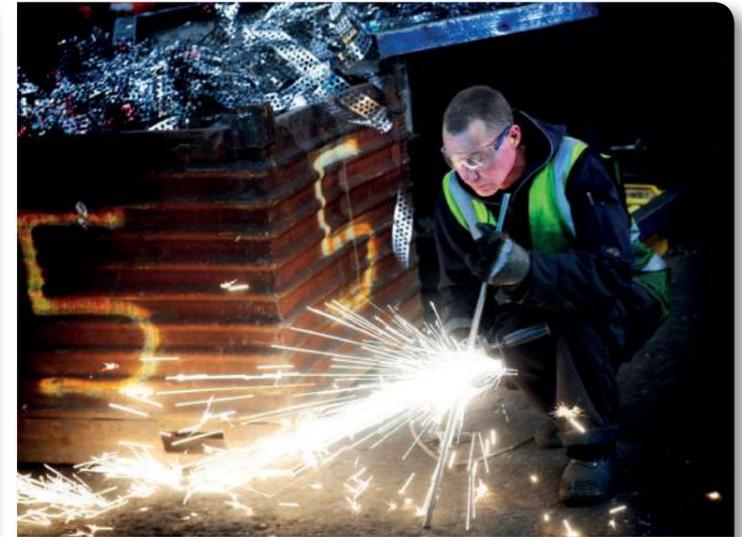
Perchloroethylene was one of the core models scrutinised in the report which was



completed in August 2013 and presented on the Exhibition Floor at the 2014 Chemspec Europe event in Budapest at a two day international RSC Symposium (UK Royal Society of Chemistry) 18/19 June this year. Using life cycles assessment (LCA) as a tool, the report confirms that by using recycled solvent which is then destined for onward recycling an operator can reduce the carbon footprint of a company by as much as 92%.

In particular the figures indicate that recycling of perchloroethylene saves 90% of greenhouse gas emissions relative to the average emissions associated with the production of virgin solvent. It should be noted that maximisation of the total environmental benefits comes with using recycled solvent which then itself goes on to be recycled (the circle is complete in an ongoing programme which is truly responsible in a real sense and guaranteed for the long term) rather than the utilisation of virgin products which may subsequently be destined for recycling or disposal as cost or convenience dictates.

Ireland Alloy's UK Managing Director Iain



Hogg commented "Apart from the obvious requirement to supply the highest possible quality product, Ireland Alloys entire business philosophy is based upon the concepts of recycling, sustainability and environmental protection. Our Operations Manager, Tom Bridges, was instrumental in reviewing the market and worked tirelessly to source a partner able to provide a top quality product whilst reducing costs and furthering the environmental goals of Ireland Alloys. His contribution has been invaluable and has brought significant benefits to the Company. Geiss perchloroethylene offered Ireland Alloys the perfect synergy to continue to further our growth and development with the focus firmly on the future. The reduction in carbon footprint which is achievable by adopting a high quality recycled product is an additional advantage both practically and from a marketing aspect".

Ireland Alloys processes very high value metals by sorting, crushing and ultimately cleaning these complex alloys for return to high integrity industries including aerospace.

Iain continued "Geiss UK also offered staff training and annual certification included as part of the supply agreement whereas other suppliers charge for these services. It has also been refreshing to see a reduced and transparent supply chain from Richard Geiss GmbH through Geiss UK Ltd. and finally the end user."

Geiss UK Ltd. is the UK's fastest growing solvent supplier and represents market leader Richard Geiss GmbH, Europe's leading provider of high purity and highly stabilised aerospace approved recycled solvent including perchloroethylene. A full back up and support structure including laboratory facilities, test kits, stabilisers and TLB Secure-Tainer banded shipment and storage containers is available with full training in all aspects of solvent management.

Please contact Glenn Greenlees for more information.

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