

TMT 15[®] - Precipitating Copper from Wastewater

Case Study / Info 30 E

TMT 15[®] is widely used in various industries that produce liquid wastes containing heavy metals. The heavy metals are usually removed from the wastewater by precipitation and flocculation.

Individual examples demonstrate the effectiveness of treatment methods in practice, and should give anyone interested enough background to perform tests to check the suitability of TMT 15[®] for their own particular wastewater composition. We would be happy to provide TMT 15[®] in sample amounts. Our Application Technology department is also prepared to provide assistance in finding solutions.

Printed circuit technology / Coppertetrammine complex

Treatment process:

- Collect 1 l of rinse water from the etching machine (1 g Cu/l, 12 g NH₃/l, pH 8.1),
- within 20 minutes, add 18 ml of TMT 15[®] while stirring,
- add 2.5 ml of 0.1% nonionic flocculation aid (such as Praestol 2500),
- stir rapidly for 1 minute, slowly for 15 minutes (pH 8.4),
- separate orange-colored, coarsely flocculent precipitate by filtering.

The filtrate contained less than 0.07 mg Cu/l

Remarks

TMT 15[®] requirement: 18 l TMT 15[®] per kg copper (Cu)

The requirement can also be determined using the calculations found at www.tmt15.com.

For copper precipitation, it is usually necessary to adjust the pH value to the range 7–10 after the required chemicals have been added. To some extent, the precipitation result and residual metal content is strongly dependent on the pH value, depending on the type and concentration of complexing agents.

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Product Information

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Available examples

TMT Info No.	Heavy metal	Complexing agent	Branch
TMT Info 30	Copper (Cu)	Tetrammine	Printed circuit board Manufacture
TMT Info 31	Copper (Cu)	EDTA complex	Printed circuit board Manufacture
TMT Info 32	Cadmium (Cd)	Tetrammine	Electroplating
TMT Info 33	Silver (Ag)	Thiosulfate complex	Photografic rinse water
TMT Info 34	Silver (Ag)	Thiosulfate complex	Photografic concentrate
TMT Info 35	Mercury (Hg)	Chlorocomplex	Chemical industry
TMT Info 36	Nickel (Ni)	Polyamine complex	Electroplating
TMT Info 37	Lead (Pb)	Cataphoretic electro-deposition of paint	Automotive industry
TMT Info 38	Copper (Cu) & Nickel (Ni)	Actual wastewater	Printed circuit board Manufacture

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