



Extrusion Technology
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To Our Valued Customers

XTech RoHS Update Bulletin #2

Continuing with our commitment to keep customers updated on XTech's RoHS activities, we are pleased to report encouraging results from initial trials of the Trivalent Clear Chromate process (Note: RoHS specifies the elimination of Hexavalent Chrome). This RoHS compliant coating is expected to meet or exceed the Class 3 corrosion resistance of ASTM B 449 together with electrical conductivity commensurate with traditional hexavalent clear chromates. For reference, a Class 3 Chromate Conversion Coating is often described as a coating where:

1. Dimensional tolerances are critical – (not affected by the coating)
2. Some corrosion protection is required
3. The maximum electrical conduction between mating finished surfaces (due to applied pressure) is desired.

Additionally, we will continue to work with our suppliers to establish sustainable process efficiencies thus minimizing any cost impact from this change. We plan to migrate to the trivalent chromate conversion coating in late March 2005.

For those customers who have specified, or are considering the specification of Yellow Chromate as a conversion coating for their products, we offer the following advisory:

Products containing Yellow Chromate are not considered RoHS compliant and thus will be prohibited from sale in the European Union effective July 1, 2006. (There are certain kinds of equipment that may have temporary exemptions from this directive. Consult your customers and those individuals representing your European markets). For more information, please request XTech RoHS Bulletin #3 on Yellow Chromates.

XTech's business infrastructure remains poised to provide full RoHS compliant products to its customers beginning in July 2005.

Should you have any additional questions or need additional supporting information, please feel free to contact Steve Richardson at 781-963-7200 Ext. 137.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richardson Steve".

(President)