**PICKLING PASTE FOR STAINLESS STEEL**

- Brush-applied pickling paste that adheres well to vertical surfaces
- Free of chlorides and hydrochloric acid, excluding onset of pit corrosion
- Rapid pickling action
- Suitable for local treatment like welding seams
- Simple and efficient application

**APPLICATION**

For the pickling of austenitic and duplex (austenitic/ferritic) stainless steel, nickel and nickel alloys. VECINOX PICKLING PASTE 10 is used for the removal of welding discolorations, rolling scale, embedded iron etc., because those impurities reduce corrosion resistance significantly.

VECINOX PICKLING PASTE 10 dissolves foreign particles on stainless steel that have appeared during mechanical and/or thermal processing such as bending, setting and welding. These may be iron particles and the oxides/hydroxides of iron, chromium, nickel, etc.

**DIRECTIONS FOR USE**

**PRETREATMENT**

Before pickling, the surfaces to be treated should be cooled down and be cleaned and degreased. For removing felt pen etc., the use of VECLEAN® ELECTRO SPRAY is recommended. For cleaning and degreasing use STEAMCLEAN HPC-NF.

**PICKLING**

Shake VECINOX PICKLING PASTE 10 well before use and apply in a uniform layer using an acid-resistant brush. The pickling time will depend on the method of welding, the nature of the shielding and backing gas, the type of stainless steel and the temperature of the object to be pickled.

**RINSING**

After pickling, the VECINOX PICKLING PASTE 10 should be rinsed off thoroughly. Contamination that is not dissolved will detach completely due to the penetration of the acid on the metal under the contamination. This contamination is best removed with a cold-water jet under high pressure (min. 50-60 bar). When high-pressure spraying is not possible, rinsing can be helped by brushing (use acid-resistant material). When possible, the process should be concluded by rinsing with demineralised water. The chloride content of the rinse water should be as low as possible (preferably < 50 mg/l Cl⁻).

**PASSIVATION**

The protective chromium oxide layer on the stainless steel will form spontaneously under oxidizing conditions. For example during rinsing with oxygen-rich (demineralised) water or during 24 hours exposure to the atmosphere. When the pickled material has to be used shortly after pickling (within 24 hours), or in case it is exposed to a corrosive atmosphere during natural passivating, we recommend that it be passivated chemically with VECINOX PASSIVATING LIQUID (L-800).
TREATMENT OF THE USED PASTE
The rinse water with the used paste should be treated with quicklime (calcium hydroxide) in order to neutralize the acid and precipitate (remove) the fluoride and heavy metals. The recommended pH value lies between 8.5 and 10. After sedimentation of the insoluble constituents, the supernatant water may in most instances, after being inspected, be released to the drains. Separate the insolubles and take the precipitated sludge to an accredited processor. Vecom will be pleased to be of service.

PROPERTIES
Colourless paste. Strongly acidic product that contains nitric acid and hydrofluoric acid. Contains no chlorides or hydrochloric acid.

Specific Gravity (20 °C) : 1.29
Flash point : none
pH (1% solution) : 1.0

NATURE OF THE HAZARDS AND SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS
See the Material Safety Data Sheet.

The details of our products are given completely free of undertaking. Since their application lies outside our control we cannot accept any liability for the results.