

PRESS RELEASE



3M announces expansion to range of Novec Engineered Fluids for Precision Cleaning – now an even wider choice of effective and sustainable options

Bracknell, UK, 26th October 2016 – 3M, the science-based technology company, has announced an expansion to its range of Novec Engineered Fluids, with the aim of giving users even greater choice for the precision cleaning of metals and electronics components.

The latest addition to the range is Novec 73DE Engineered Fluid, designed for the more demanding types of metal cleaning applications. In common with other Novec Engineered Fluids, it has excellent health, safety and environmental properties in line with all current regulations, making it a safe and sustainable choice. It is also the lowest priced Novec Engineered Fluid, meeting demands for safe, heavy duty cleaning performance at a lower operating cost.

With its proven track record spanning two decades, the Novec Engineered Fluids Range is compatible with a wide variety of materials. The range provides high-performing alternatives to regulated solvents that are traditionally used for cleaning, including n-propyl bromide (nPB), Trichloroethylene (Trike) and Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

These substances have been subject to increased regulatory scrutiny due to their high Global Warming Potential (GWP) for HFCs, and their CMR (Carcinogenic, Mutagenic or toxic to Reproduction) potential for nPB/Trike. Restrictions have been placed on their use including the Solvents Emissions Directive, the F-Gas Regulation and REACH regulations. Following a sunset date in April 2016, use of Trike is now banned and users of this chemical who have no prior authorisation could face significant fines. In September 2016 nPB was also included on the REACH draft authorisation list, which, if formalised could imply a sunset date and phase-down path similar to that of Trike. REACH has already deemed nPB as a Substance of Very High Concern (SVHC). In comparison, Novec Fluids have zero Ozone Depletion Potential, low GWP ratings, and are non-flammable with low toxicity.

Novec Engineered Fluids also offer an excellent alternative to aqueous cleaning, because they are non-corrosive, have fast cleaning and drying cycles and leave surfaces spot-free. Furthermore, the range is energy-efficient and is ideal for cleaning machine units with relatively small footprints.

Support is provided by technical and customer support both locally and globally, working closely with cleaning equipment manufacturers and industry specialists.

The 3M Novec Brand family

More than 20 years ago, 3M led the way with the introduction of segregated hydro-fluoro ether (HFE) technology, in response to environmental concerns such as ozone depletion and climate change. While the properties of HFEs seem almost magical, their origin was no accident – 3M scientists explored the properties of more than 1,000 compounds to develop one that offered an optimal balance of performance, safety and sustainability.

Today, the 3M Novec Brand represents a variety of proprietary compounds that fill the need for smart, safe, environmentally sound solutions for a wide variety of industry-specific applications. These include precision and electronics cleaning, heat transfer, file protection, lubricant deposition and several specialty chemical applications.

www.3M.co.uk/noveccleaning

About 3M

At 3M, we apply science in collaborative ways to improve lives daily. With \$30 billion in sales, our 90,000 employees connect with customers all around the world.

The UK and Ireland is home to one of the largest 3M subsidiaries outside the USA, employing 2,900 people across 20 locations, including eight manufacturing sites.

Products manufactured in the UK include coated abrasives, personal safety equipment, adhesive tapes, industrial microbiology products, drug delivery systems and high-performance coatings.

Learn more about 3M's creative solutions to the world's problems at www.3M.co.uk or follow @3M_UK on Twitter.

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