

**EYE ON IT**

Your resin is an integral part of the entire EDM process. I hope that this newsletter provides some information that can be used to increase your resin life and in turn increase your machine up time.

**Points to remember:**

Dispose of your resin responsibly.

Know who is handling your resin regeneration.

Look at your make up water source

Keep cleaners out of the Di-tank

Use rust inhibitor according to manufactures specification.

Seriously look at resin cost and filter life to see if there is a correlation.

**Give me some Real World facts!****What do I need to know about my resin?**

Out of sight – Out of mind, that's the role of edm resins. It just sits in the back on the machine.

The stability of your machine, the number of wire breaks, the surface finish and the speed of cut are all determined in part from your resin.

There are several things you can do to extend the life of your resin and some things that will end it prematurely.

If you are getting your resin regenerated, which you should be, from the same company then the life and quality should be consistent. If it is not, then we need to look at what is occurring in the machine environment. The odds of bad resin, unless you have had it sitting on the shelf, is small.

One issue to look at,

your di-tank with city water is chlorine. Chlorine is removed by the resin. You are depleting your resin every time you "top off". Distilled water is a better choice and much cheaper in the long run. Also, water from a well or trout stream is a killer to the resin.

OK, now we have good water, but we buy cheap or large micron filters. We save a dollar or two on the filters but now we turned our expensive resin bed into a secondary filter. Real life example: customer saved \$10.00 per filter; his resin life fell by ½. Cost to regenerate his particular tank \$ 185.00. He saved \$20.00 to spend \$90.00. Cheap, low end or larger micron filters (above 5 micron) are never a good deal, they will always cost you more in the end game.

Ok, now we have good water and the right filters in

the machine, but our machine is a bit dirty. We pull out the cleaner and we are ready to go. That is after we make sure there is no chlorine in our cleaner, we disconnect the drain hoses as we NEVER want that cleaner in our di-tank. It will destroy your resin and possibly oxidize your solenoids and valves. We recommend a phosphoric detergent based cleaner. Rinse well and then rinse again before connecting the hoses.

We are running well but have some rust. A rust inhibitor is a great thing if used correctly. Bruce from Nationwide stated, "My biggest concern is when rust inhibitors are used in the work tanks. When used correctly in the work tank it's not a problem, but I think some machine operators are just dumping it in guessing at the amount needed. Rust inhibitors will coat the resin beads and decrease the resin life greatly". Good Advice.

**Sent to you by:**

**North American EDM Supplies Inc. [www.edmsupplies.com](http://www.edmsupplies.com) (440) 918-3770**