

Info 35 E - Precipitating Mercury from wastewater

GENERAL INFORMATION

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.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY / MERCURYCHLORO COMPLEX

Treatment process:

- Collect 1 l of a wood protecting agent (3.6 g Hg/l, pH 4.8),
- adjust to pH 7 using 3 ml of 5% caustic soda
- within 30 minutes, add 21.1 ml of TMT 15[®] while stirring,
- add 15 ml of 0.1% nonionic flocculation aid (such as Praestol 2500),
- stir rapidly for 1 minute, slowly for 15 minutes (pH 8.4),
- separate gray-colored, coarsely flocculent precipitate by filtering.

The filtrate only contained 0.02 mg Hg/l

REMARKS

TMT 15[®] requirement: 5.9 l TMT 15[®] per kg Mercury (Hg)

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

For Mercury 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.

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

Disclaimer

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