

## PRESS RELEASE

### ENVIRONMENTAL AND WORK SAFETY LEADS TO HIGHER SURFACE QUALITY

Anti-spatter spray is a product that originally was developed to protect torches against spatter. Increasing demands on productivity and surface quality have tempted the industry to use these sprays for workpiece protection – a great idea but the wrong product. Traditional anti-spatter sprays have often led to coating errors and also frequently pose a certain safety risk. PROTEC is embarking on a new path with bio anti-spatter fluids that provide process stability as well as safety for the user and the environment.

More and more metal working companies are discovering the enormous potential of protecting workpieces against welding spatter.



Rework can be prevented by wetting the surface with an appropriate anti-spatter agent beforehand. Why waste precious time clearing away spatter when you merely achieve, at best, the initial quality you started out with in the first place.

The correct choice of anti-spatter agent is imperative, as the quality of the welding seam as well as the coating must not be allowed to suffer. Using torch anti-spatter sprays that are usually found in the work shop

is risky: The origins of most conventional anti-spatter sprays can be found in the protection of nozzles. Most sprays have not been designed for the broad set of requirements called for by workpiece protection - and this results in side effects.

While the important criteria of overwelding is assessed directly onsite at the welding shop, there are major hidden error sources. Overwelding causes heat influence of the agent beside the weld, which turns into a critical zone for subsequent coating processes. At this point, the welder is unaware that subsequent massive wetting faults can occur during coating, e.g. in hot dip zinc-coating, electro-coating, varnishing, powder-coating, etc. In practice this often gives rise to unpleasant scenarios - discussions with regard to determining the fault between the coater and the steelworker are common consequences.

#### Criteria for anti-spatter sprays

- Safety for the user: non-flammable, bio-technology
- Optimal overwelding, No porosity in the welding seams
- 100% anti-adhesion effect against spatter, effective protection in wet and dry phases
- Can be washed off without any residues in the standard degreasing process, supports cleaning processes
- Perfect coating results (zinc-coating, electro-coating, water-born primer, etc.)

#### Is there a solution that actually saves costs and prevents side effects?

An important step is the implementation of anti-spatter sprays that have been designed for all areas of application (nozzle, workpiece, jigs). The anti-spatter agent must not only be approved for the welding process but also for cleaning and coating. Furthermore, the can should not be filled with flammable propellants but should instead be equipped with "bag-in-can" technology for instance. With this technology, the anti-spatter agent is contained in a bag within the spray can, surrounded by compressed air. A further trend, in particular with larger components, is the use of canisters and refillable sprayers. This very environmentally-friendly option is also extremely economical.



The Austrian company PROTEC ([www.protec-austria.com](http://www.protec-austria.com)) offers such a universal product for surface protection: "METALLOTION PROTEC CE15L". This product provides optimum long-term protection and contains an integrated vegetable-based degreasing component. PROTEC CE15L is pH-neutral and has no negative effects on pretreatment baths.



For over ten years now, PROTEC has been a specialist in vegetable-based bio anti-spatter agents (non-flammable, biodegradable), which they have developed in collaboration with renowned users. Special focus in this respect is always placed on maximum process stability. The aim for the user is higher productivity through the elimination of rework and the retention of surface quality.

The PROTEC product range focuses on surface protection for welding and cutting (anti-spatter products such as the Metalotion PROTEC CE15L) and wire cleaning/coating fluids (PROTEC WLS) for improved welding processes. PROTEC counts several international customers to its client base, from automotive OEMs to steel contraction companies. There are many big names found in the reference list, such as BMW, Mercedes-Benz, Volkswagen, Caterpillar or Unger Steel.



**Sustainability, stability and safety – modern companies take responsibility for their employees and the environment. And if you can save money in the process - more power to you!**

**For further questions please contact us:**

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