3M Science. Applied to Life.™

3M Abrasives

Customer Story

> “We quickly realised we couldn’t afford to use anything else but 3M™ Cubitron™ 3”

Graham Hanks
Production Manager at Reddish Electroplating

↓60% LESS Abrasives Used

Reddish Electroplating Ltd

Image: Tom Gibson – Professional Metalworker

About the company

Specialising in industrial hard chrome plating for engineering applications on cast steel and stellite alloy substrates, Reddish Electroplating had a time and finish critical process they wanted to optimise in order to satisfy their increasing workload while maintaining the high finish standards they have become known for amongst their customer base.

The Challenge

Graham Hanks, Production Manager, needed to find a faster way of removing the topcoat, machine marks, and welds down to sound metal before the chrome plating and subsequent finishing steps could be completed. The substrates they use are particularly hard to grind fast with speed and consistency.

The Solution

With support from a 3M Process Specialist, Graham oversaw a trial of 3M™ Cubitron™ 3 Fibre Discs on the 3M™ 1900W Angle Grinder and 3M™ Cubitron™ 3 Cloth Belts on his existing portable belt machines. The patented grain technology meant that even on these hard to grind substrates, the work got done faster and the scratch pattern left behind was more than good enough to chrome plate and polish to the desired finish specification.

Here’s what Graham had to say:

“Tom is one of our most experienced metalworkers and his feedback was critical in our assessment of the trial. Once we saw the significant increase in through-put these products are capable of delivering, without compromising on our commitment to quality, we quickly realised we couldn’t afford to use anything else but Cubitron 3. We now get twice the work done in half the time and the products are lasting at least twice as long. Cubitron 3 has transformed our process and supports our commitment to quality work.”

“It’s really helped make the grinding work easier as the abrasive disc is clearly working faster. The motor filter has reduced the amount of grinding debris getting into the motor, increasing its service life.”

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