

PREGAN® PASTE

Alkaline cleaning paste, roughening agent for aluminium frames

PREGAN PASTE is used to clean and degrease screen meshes and metal surfaces in the engraving plant. In combination with PREGAN post-cleaners (e.g. PREGAN COMBI-CLEAN) it is used for the removal of ink or emulsion residue after decoating. In addition to the effect of alkaline solutions which reduce natural fats, PREGAN PASTE also emulsifies synthetic fats, mineral oils and other contaminants. In one broad effect, all practical aspects of cleaning and degreasing are covered. PREGAN PASTE can also be used as a roughening agent for aluminium frames.

APPLICATION

Stir the PREGAN PASTE prior to use.

As a cleaning and degreasing agent: Evenly apply PREGAN PASTE using a brush onto both sides of the screen. After a reaction time of approx. 5 min. brush the screen thoroughly until all residue has been dissolved or emulsified. Contaminants can then be removed by rinsing well with water. As soon as the water runs off without foam, washing is completed. The screen mesh needs no further treatment and is ready for coating after drying.

For mesh post treatment: Depending on the type and age of the residue, different methods of application and product combinations can be advantageous. In the following, guide values are given.

For the removal of so-called ghost images or mesh colourations caused by photoemulsion components preferably use PREGAN PASTE without any activator. Allow to react for approx. 5 - 10 min.

In case of colourations on coarse meshes (coarser than approx. 77-55 (T) mesh) caused by e.g. textile or plastisol inks, it is recommended to use a mixture of PREGAN PASTE and PREGAN COMBI-CLEAN in a ratio of approx. 1:1. This mixture can be produced on the screen itself or by simply mixing it. Allow to react for approx. 5 - 10 min. A longer reaction is necessary for very stubborn contamination. Do not exceed 20 min. Optimum distribution and moistening are only possible when using dry screens, do not allow cold water to get into the container where both products are mixed.

For the removal of ghost images caused by solvent or water based inks, first apply PREGAN COMBI-CLEAN. After a reaction time of 5 - 10 min. apply PREGAN PASTE using a brush and allow to react for 5 - 10 min.

After the respective reaction time, carefully spray out both products with water using a hand shower. Then rinse with a high pressure water washer.

Notice: When applying PREGAN PASTE, especially in combination with solvent based cleaners or activators, the sensitivity of polyester screen meshes increases with rising ambient temperatures, longer reaction times, finer threads and previous heavy use/damage. Contamination as ghost images can only be removed by a deep-cleaning action. Therefore possible tearing of the mesh cannot be ruled out. On the other hand, this method is often the only possibility to reclaim the mesh. It is recommended to test the suitability of PREGAN PASTE/solvent based cleaner/activator for specific

applications beforehand, as we cannot assume any responsibility for torn mesh.

As a roughening agent for aluminium frames: Before stretching the screen mesh, apply PREGAN PASTE thoroughly on the bonding area of the aluminium frame. Allow to react for about 3 min., then rinse well with water and dry before bonding.

COLOUR	Beige to brown
CONSISTENCY	Pasty. The consistency of PREGAN PASTE may vary due to the natural raw materials contained. This does not influence efficiency.
pH-Value	Approx. 14
HEALTH HAZARDS	PREGAN PASTE causes severe burns on bare skin. When working with PREGAN PASTE wear suitable safety gloves as well as safety goggles/ mask. Immediately take off contaminated and soaked clothing. In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice. Please follow further information given in the material safety data sheet.
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	PREGAN PASTE is strongly alkaline, thus control the pH-value before emptying into drains (generally pH-value 9 should not be exceeded). While small quantities neutralize themselves by reaction with carbonic acids or other waste water particles (especially when collecting in waste water basins), commercial quantities have to be separated and neutralized e.g. with e.g. with acetic, formic or citric acid. Determine the neutralization point (pH-value 7) by measuring the pH-value, the neutralized products can then be emptied into drains.
STORAGE	1 year (at 20 - 25°C). Protect against freezing. If PREGAN PASTE freezes, it can be applied again after thawing and having stirred well. After a longer period of storage, liquid may separate on the surface. Short stirring homogenizes the consistency.