

ACID BATHS

■ USED TO:

- ◆ NEUTRALIZE: Alkaline Drag-In
- ◆ DEOXIDIZE: Rust, Light Oxides
- ◆ DESCALE: Weld, Heat Treat

ACID BATHS

After alkaline cleaning, it may be necessary to treat the parts in an acid bath to accomplish one or more of the following objectives:

1. Neutralization

Neutralization refers to the chemical destruction of the alkaline film left on the parts by alkaline cleaning. The treatments used are generally very mild.

2. Deoxidation

Parts which contain light rust or stains often require a somewhat stronger acid treatment than "neutralization".

3. Descaling

The term "descaling" is normally reserved for the worst cases of oxide formation, such as the heavy, dark colored residues left from welding and certain types of heat treatment. The heavier scales often require vigorous treatment with strong acids.

Neutralization can be achieved with almost any acid bath; however, deoxidizing and descaling generally require more specific selection of the acid, the time, and the temperature of exposure.