

Situation

A major automotive parts supplier to a variety of automobile and heavy equipment vehicle manufacturers was only intermittently meeting the P-PAP Millipore® test on engine blocks after passage through a Proceco® parts washer. The result of the deficiency was vehicle part rework resulting in additional manufacturing costs in an already lean environment.

Solution

A systematic approach was undertaken to gain a better understanding of the root cause of the failures.

This involved:

- + Observing the parts washing procedure and modes of filtration employed to remove the contaminants
- + Obtaining a series of parts washing fluid samples and analyzing the size, amount and composition of the contaminants
- + Presenting a cost effective solution to ensure that quality control test results met the cleanliness specification 100% of the time.

Value in Use

Previous to solution implementation not only was the cleanliness specification only intermittently successfully met but also disposable cartridges and parts washing solution was discarded every two weeks resulting elevated consumable costs in addition to the aforementioned rework



manufacturing costs.

The ROI was immediate (approximately two weeks) as filtration change outs were increased from 2 weeks to 3 months. This also resulted in fewer fluid changes and no part rework due to the continuous successful patch tests.