

Steam Treating



Steam treating is a tenacious oxide layer that improves part life, reduces cleaning operations and is environmentally safe. Steam treating provides a thin, oxide film coating (Fe_3O_4) about .0001" thick on the surface of *ferrous parts*. This black, uniform coating provides corrosion resistance for increased tool life.

As an alternative to chemical bath treatments (i.e., black oxide), the parts are fixtured in a furnace and heated to temperatures of 850°F to 1200°F. Steam is introduced at 600°F to purge the air. A positive pressure steam atmosphere is present during the entire treating cycle.

The result—attractive, uniform, black, oxide coated parts, without costly cleanup or disposal problems associated with traditional “black oxide” processes. Specifically this means no discoloration or spotty residue located in deep crevices, blind holes, or keyways.

Environmentally Safe Oxide Coating

Typical Parts Treated

- Twist Drills
- Taps
- Reamers
- Nuts & Bolts

Typical Material Treated

- Cast Iron
- Tool Steel
- Alloy Steel
- Powdered Metal



Processing capacity for bulk quantities of small parts or large pieces in 21" diameter x 25" deep retort.



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