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PURGING PROCEDURE FOR INJECTION MOLDING Shutdown / Start-up



SHUTDOWN

Preparation Before Purging

(with about 5 minutes remaining in production run)

- 1. Turn off material flow.
- 2. Turn off colorant.
- 3. Maintain process settings and continue running parts.
- 4. When last part is completed, retract carriage.
- 5. Clean hopper and/or colorant blender.
- 6. Load Purgex[™] into hopper/feed zone, using 1 to 1-1/2 times the injection capacity.
- 7. Clean nozzle and sprue bushing.

Purging The Machine

- 1. Adjust shot size to roughly 25% of injection capacity.
- 2. Purge two shots from the barrel and soak for 5 minutes.
- 3. In manual mode, purge out barrel and screw with remaining Purgex™ so that only residual Purgex™ remains in the barrel.
- 4. Shut down machine.

START-UP

- 1. When machine reaches process temperature, add 1 barrel capacity of $Purgex^{TM}$ to the hopper/feed zone.
- 2. Fill barrel with Purgex™.
- 3. In manual mode, purge the barrel and screw with Purgex™.
- 4. Continue purging until most of the Purgex[™] is out of the hopper.
- 5. Feed at least one injection capacity of the next production resin (with/without colorant on) to rinse out any residual Purgex $^{\text{TM}}$.
- 6. If necessary, rinse with additional production resin.

Comments & Recommendations

- → Highly contaminated machines or the use of liquid colorants may require additional purging with Purgex[™] and/or an extended soak time.
- Purgex™ is stable and is safe to leave in the barrel for long term shutdowns.
- Purgex[™] can be used effectively many ways. These procedures are offered as a reference and have been shown to be most effective in plant trials and our controlled lab experiments.
- Purgex[™] should be thoroughly tested on any process following these basic guidelines as a baseline before testing using any alternative method.

