

Can you still clean them? Or do they have to go?



Maintenance and tools cleaning is an important task in electronics production. It is not only about ensuring reproducible production quality, but also about maintaining the value of the machinery. With the kolb maintenance cleaning systems and detergents such tasks can be performed perfectly. Sometimes, however, there are e.g. machine parts that cannot be cleaned easily. Or can they?

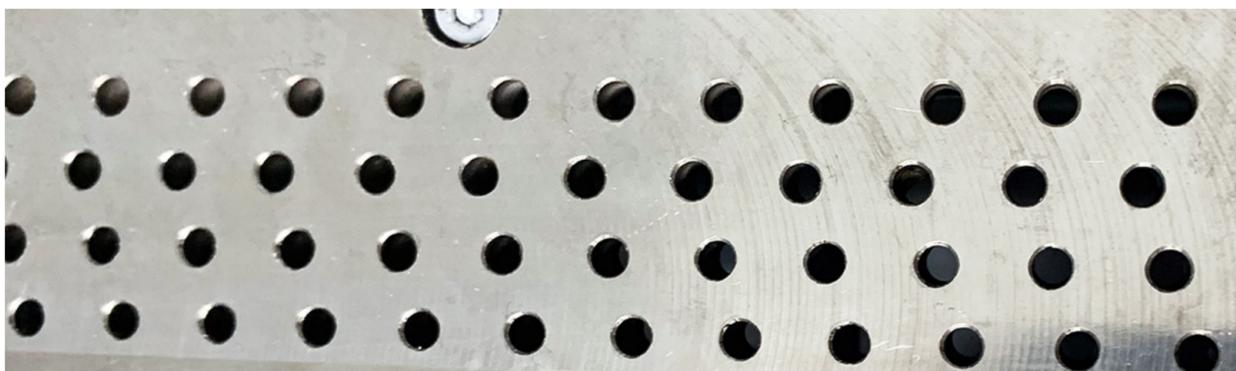


A classic example of such „uncleanable“ elements are longer used pump parts (*image above*) from wave soldering systems. After extended use their function is no longer optimal because in particular the geometry of the solder nozzles in the distributor plate is contaminated with heavily burned-in soldering aids / oxides and soot. In addition, the mobility of pump gears and other moving parts suffers. If the contamination has reached a certain level, the pump plates have to be removed laboriously and mechanically cleaned or in many cases completely replaced in order to keep the soldering process stable.



The kolb analysis team has now proven in a reliable test that such a pump unit can simply be machine-cleaned so that it can be reused trouble-free.

The test object was the soldering pump of a kolb customer from his running operation. (*Image above: Test cleaning, before and after demonstration, image below: Machine-cleaned, rinsed and dried solder nozzle sheet*).



Essential: The detergent

The solder pump was cleaned with the special cleaner kolb StoveEx® in a fully automatic kolb AF20 maintenance cleaning system with AirFlow® air-in-immersion technology. The system is generally suitable for condensate filters, solder frames, carriers and small parts and also automatically performs the rinsing with water necessary for solder pump cleaning. The StoveEx® intensive cleaner used is an extra strong alkaline concentrate specially formulated to remove persistent and stoved contaminations from solder nozzles, condensate traps, filter plates, coolers and cyclones. It can be used in immersion as well in ultrasonic systems.



Our offer

If you would like to see for yourself whether the solder nozzles of a pump unit of your wave soldering system can be cleaned just as easily and thoroughly, we offer you a free of charge cleaning of a solder nozzle plate in our technical center.

For shipping arrangements and scheduling matters you can reach us at: phone +49 2154 947939 or by mail to conny.miede@kolb-ct.com.

We supply the right system, the right cleaner and the right overall process for every maintenance cleaning task.

Of course, stoved oxides are not the only challenge in maintenance cleaning. If you want to know more about the cleaning of screens, stencils, solder carriers, flux filters, machine parts, ESD boxes, squeegees, spatulas and other tools, as well as the suitable fully automatic cleaning systems, visit us on our [tools cleaning website](#).