

University of Minnesota

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Project Abstracts - Chemical alternatives for a components manufacturer in the Twin Cities area

INTERN

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PROJECT FOCUS

Chemicals

ADVISOR

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COMPANY DESCRIPTION

This global company provides large-scale manufacturing of components for various industries. Primary operations include metal forming processes.

FOCUS OF RESEARCH / RECOMMENDATIONS

Over the past year, MnTAP has been working with the company to eliminate Trichloroethylene from their processes. This summer, a MnTAP intern helped to implement a new TCE-free cleaning process that will meet all regulatory and product requirements. Work included proving cleaning effectiveness, and determining the appropriate usage life for the new cleaner. Other opportunities have also been identified to increase sustainability. These include increasing yield and saving energy in the annealing process, and studying the elimination of a pre-cleaning step that is no longer needed in the new process.