



A new era for conventional plating on plastics

Setting new standards

Right after its first appearance on the international market, Atotech's Adhemax[®] introduced a new era for conventional plating on plastics. Nowadays, Adhemax[®] is still setting new standards, with new highly selective activators and new environmentally friendlier electroless processes in plating on plastic processes for decorative applications.



Meeting the most demanding requirements

Being capable of handling most plateable ABS, PP and ABS/PC blends, Adhemax[®] is a versatile, high quality process with outstanding selective plating properties. Compared to other plating on plastic processes on the market, Adhemax[®] is extremely stable and offers excellent selectivity on 2K components. It does not produce precipitations in the concentrates and working solutions and eliminates rack metallization.

Stable and consistent processing

Adhemax[®] is designed for automatic lines, it allows for stable and consistent processing of a great diversity of plastic components with an extended solution lifetime.



Features and benefits

- Excellent stability – no precipitation in concentrates and working solutions
- Wide working window and versatile process used for ABS, ABS/PC, etc.
- Suitable for plating on 2K components
- Eliminates rack metallization
- Enhanced tolerance to variations in rack coatings
- Extended solution lifetime, less maintenance
- Designed for automatic lines
- Stable and consistent processing

The innovation for conventional pretreatment of plastics



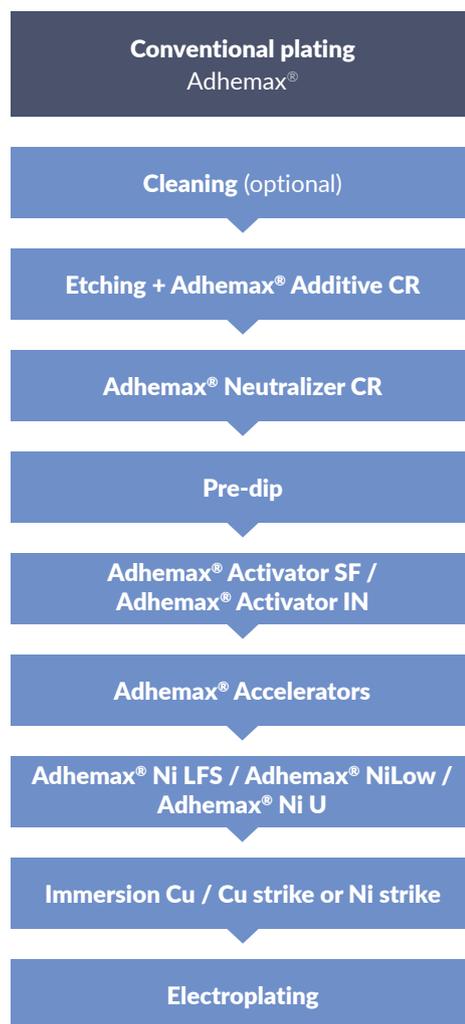
Adhemax® is a versatile process meeting most demanding requirements.



Adhemax® Ni U

Adhemax® Ni U is a stable electroless nickel aimed at reducing maintenance operations, while offering excellent covering properties.

Adhemax® process sequence



Electroplating

Atotech offers greatly compatible acid copper systems, especially developed for plating on plastics.

- Cupracid® family (dye-based)
- CuFlex® family (dye-free)

Step 1: Etching

The etching sets the scene for quality processing of plastic materials. The parameters of the solution are set according to the plastic part and as an option, Adhemax® Additive CR can be used to improve etching and Pd adsorption on complex-shaped parts.

Step 2: Neutralization

Adhemax® Neutralizer CR is neutralizing any Cr(VI) left from the etching, extending the lifetime of the activator.

Step 3: Activation

As a complement to the standard Adhemax® Activator SF, a well trusted high performing activator, capable to handle most platable plastic substrates, the Adhemax® Activator IN adds a new dimension with a special focus on selectivity and the processing of 2K components.

Step 4: Acceleration

Adhemax® Accelerators efficiently expose the Pd that works as a catalyst for the subsequent electroless step.

Step 5: Electroless nickel plating

Electroless nickel provides the conductive layer necessary for the electroplating of plastics. Apart from the standard Adhemax® Ni LFS, our lead-free and boric acid-free Adhemax® Ni U or our lead, boric and ammonia-free Adhemax® NiLow are used to produce uniform electroless nickel layers.

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