

Press Release



A future free of boric acid

Zeller+Gmelin adjusts product range by boric acid containing water-miscible cooling lubricants

Zeller+Gmelin is consistently pursuing its path "away from products containing boric acid and towards more sustainability". With a growing portfolio of boric acid-free alternatives, the Eislingen-based lubricant experts once again underline their manufacturer's commitment to health, occupational safety and sustainability.



Free boric acid as a cooling lubricant component will probably soon disappear completely from the market. The reason is the 17th Adaptation to Technical and Scientific Progress (ATP) of the CLP Regulation, which was initiated by the EU Commission and recently came into force. CLP stands for "Classification, Labelling and Packaging", i.e. the classification, labelling and packaging of chemical substances and mixtures. Due to the abolition of the substance-specific limit of 5.5% for the classification of mixtures containing boric acid, they must be classified as toxic to reproduction, Cat. 1B, at a concentration of 0.3% boric acid and labelled: "May impair fertility. May cause harm to the unborn child."

The regulation has already entered into force on 16 June 2021. However, there is a transitional period of 18 months until 17 December 2022 to allow suppliers and manufacturers to adapt the labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures and sell any remaining stocks.

Thorsten Wechmann, Product Manager at Zeller+Gmelin, emphasises in this regard: "This clarifies that we are continuing on the course we adapted years ago and that boric acid-containing water-miscible cooling lubricants will disappear completely from our shelves. Our developers are constantly working to increase the proportion of sustainable, resource-saving and, above all, health- and environmentally-friendly lubricants."



Fact: Even boric acid-free cooling lubricants meet the highest requirements



The Eislingen-based lubricant experts have already been able to prove many times in practice that water-miscible cooling lubricants without boric acid do not contradict maximum performance. For example, the company's product portfolio already includes high-performance cooling lubricants that are free of boric acid and formaldehyde depot substances and are virtually predestined for the most difficult machining processes.

Finally, Zeller+Gmelin has already shown in recent years, with their boric acid-free Zubora products such as the 65 or 67 series, that water-miscible cooling lubricants without boric acid do not represent a contradiction to maximum performance without sacrificing long-term stability, pH resistance and corrosion protection.

High-performance lubricants and fluid management from a single source

ZG Fluidmanagement shows how comprehensive the service of the lubricant experts is. To ensure that the lubricant can flow reliably and without interruption, the subsidiary ZG Fluidmanagement takes over the complete service from process optimisation to internal logistics.

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