

Glycolic Acid

Concrete Remover Formulations

Product Information

Clean and maintain your tools, equipment, and vehicles with glycolic acid-based concrete remover formulations.

Attributes

- Efficient at penetrating and loosening concrete.
- Highly effective calcium complexing agent.
- Low to no corrosion on most metals and coatings. Significantly lower corrosion than hydrochloric acid-based removers.
- Active ingredient is readily biodegradable.
- Glycolic acid is found in natural products, such as fruits and vegetables.

Functionality

As the smallest hydroxycarboxylic acid available, glycolic acid combines the key cleaning attributes, acidity and metal complexing capability, in an efficient and cost-effective manner. Glycolic acid is significantly less corrosive than mineral acids, such as hydrochloric acid. The results are that glycolic acid is preferable to use on many metals and surfaces, including stainless steel, aluminum, painted surfaces, and most plastics.

Application

Glycolic acid's high water solubility and small molecular size allow it to penetrate deep inside concrete residues and react from within. Because of its less corrosive nature, glycolic acid can be used on most surfaces and equipment without concerns for etching and damage. In addition, readily biodegradable glycolic acid is easier to dispose of than other cleaning agents, such as phosphoric acid or HCl.



Corrosivity

Solutions at 10% (100% basis) concentrations of glycolic acid, phosphoric acid, and HCl were tested for corrosion on 1018 carbon steel, 1100 aluminum, and 304 and 316 stainless steel. The tests were performed, in triplicate, at 23°C (73°F) for 48 hr with no agitation. The results are the average of the percent weight loss.

Table 1.

Test Metal	Wt% Loss		
	Glycolic	Phosphoric	HCl
1018 carbon steel	0.17	0.64	2.03
1100 aluminum	0.009	1.39	55.51
304 stainless steel	0.008	0.011	0.53
316 stainless steel	0.002	0.002	0.94

Starting Point Formulations

Standard Concentrate	Wt%
Glycolic Acid, 70% Tech Grade (Chemours)	80.0
Tergitol 15-S-9 (Dow)	4.0
Dowanol DPM (Dow)	16.0

Standard Ready-to-Use	Wt%
Glycolic Acid, 70% Tech Grade (Chemours)	20.0
Tergitol 15-S-9 (Dow)	1.0
Dowanol DPM (Dow)	4.0
Water	75.0

Low/No Corrosion Concentrate	Wt%
Glycolic Acid, 70% Tech Grade (Chemours)	76.0
Tergitol 15-S-9 (Dow)	4.0
Dowanol DPM (Dow)	12.0
Rodine 103	8.0

Low/No Corrosion Ready-to-Use	Wt%
Glycolic Acid, 70% Tech Grade (Chemours)	20.0
Tergitol 15-S-9 (Dow)	1.0
Dowanol DPM (Dow)	4.0
Rodine 103	2.0
Water	73.0

Instructions

Concentrate

1. Dilute 1:4 with tap water for use.
2. Spray onto surface needing concrete removal.
3. Wait at least 30 min (allowing to react overnight or between shifts is acceptable).
4. Powerwash equipment and parts to remove residual concrete.
 - Extremely heavy residuals may require two treatments.
 - Wear appropriate personal protection equipment.
 - As with all acids, it should not be sprayed on hot surfaces.

Ready-to-Use

1. Spray onto surface needing concrete removal.
2. Wait at least 30 min (allowing to react overnight or between shifts is acceptable).
3. Powerwash equipment and parts to remove residual concrete.
 - Extremely heavy residuals may require two treatments.
 - Wear appropriate personal protection equipment.
 - As with all acids, it should not be sprayed on hot surfaces.

For more information, visit glycolicacid.chemours.com or call (800) 441-9593.

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