

Instructions to operate the MICROSTRIP unit for PRECIOUS METALS

Integral 50 amp power supply with automatic heating.
Complete with all anodes & covers.
Economical 1 litre process tanks.

Reference No: 2704D

LEFT tank: RINSING/NEUTRALISING

MIDDLE tank: ELECTROPOLISH

RIGHT tank: ELECTROSTRIP

Heater Fuse: 7.5 amps

Rectifier Fuse: 10 amps

Fuse Type: 1.25" (32mm)

INSTALLATION

Remove the three process baths.

1. Fill the WATER JACKET with approx. 5 litres of tap water.
2. Fill the 3 baths with approx. 800mls of distilled water each.
3. Switch on the machine and wait for the temperature to reach 60-65°C (approx. 30 minutes).
4. Make up the processes as instructed in the relevant data sheets.

NOTE. If you intend to electrobrighten Gold and Silver separately (preferred method) you can make the MIDDLE tank up as a SILVER ELECTRO-BRIGHTENING bath and the RIGHT tank as a GOLD ELECTROBRIGHTENING bath.

Stir each beaker for 2 minutes and leave for 1 hour at the operating temperature of 60-70°C. The temperature may be adjusted by removing the red heater cover (DISCONNECT FROM POWER SUPPLY FIRST). Turn the CONTROL screw to 10°C ABOVE the required temperature, re-fit cover.

To hold items, use Copper, Silver, Stainless Steel or Platinum wires. Do not exceed 50 amps, as indicated on the ammeter. If the ammeter or voltmeter gives no reading, wait for 5 minutes for the thermal overload to reset. If the unit does not reset, check fuses.

OPERATION

Connect the electrode holder into the RED (+) terminal on the front of the panel.

For Gold Electropolishing

1. Place the item into the RIGHT bath 5-20 seconds at 8 volts.
2. Move the item into the MIDDLE bath for 4-8 seconds at 18-20 volts, with SLOW horizontal movement. Take care not to touch the circular cathodes.
3. Rinse in the LEFT for 5 seconds.
4. Rinse in clean water and dry.

For Silver Electrobrightening

Use steps 1, 3 and 4 above only. Silver will not electropolish successfully.

Plating with your micro strip

As you can appreciate your stripping machine has an exceptional rectifier power source meaning this unit can also be for immersion plating using gold, silver and rhodium. You can pen plate by connecting a pen plating pen to the two power outlets, or carry out immersion plating by connecting your lead kit clips onto anodes which you then place into beakers.

How to convert micro strip for plating:

Flash plating (1/4 micron)

1. Remove all stripping beakers & anodes from your machine and take off the cable/stripping hook holder.
2. Place 3 new beakers with your made up solutions into your machine. As an example electrolytic cleaner in the first, precious metal solution in the second and de-mineralised water in the third.
3. On the left hand top panel notice two D C connector outputs, black & red. Connect your connector kit matching the correct colour leads.
4. Connect your anode to the red wire (positive) croc clip, connect the piece of metal you wish to treat to the black wire (negative) croc clip, then place both in the first beaker with electro light cleaner.
5. Turn on your machine and heat your solutions. Once heated set the voltage required, usually 6 to 10 volts, with the rectifier.
6. Clean with distilled water mixed with electrolytic salts, then croc clip connect to piece and immerse piece into your precious metal solution.
7. Your piece will plate in 6 to 10 seconds. Rinse under normal tap water and dry.

Hard plating (up to 3 microns)

1. Follow steps one & two above.
2. Place the micro agitator (sold separately p5187) over your first beaker, connecting the red lead to the red output on the machine and the black lead to the black output.
3. Please note one must use the Platinised Titanium Anode when hard plating titanium (code P8356)
4. Full instruction how to hard plate are available with the agitator (code P5187)