

Refractometer readings

RS stock number 685-768

Introduction

The refractometer is a device which will read accurately the emulsion strength of water mix cutting fluids at the point of use or mixing.

It has been estimated that 90% of machine shop problems involving water mix cutting fluids are traceable to incorrect emulsion strength.

Benefits achieved

- Concentrate cost savings
- Optimum cutting performance
- No risk of corrosion
- Robust construction and handy pocket size
- Adjustment screw for accurate calibration.

Operating instructions

To fix zero (0) point

- 1. Place one or two droplets of water onto the prism face ensuring that the whole prism face is covered (Figure 1).
- 2. Close cover and aim prism face toward light (Figure 2).
- 3. Look through eyepiece and adjust focus by rotating eyepiece.
- If boundary line of light and darkness is out of zero (0) point, regulated by rotating adjustment screw on top.
- 5. After fixing zero (0) level, wipe water from the prism face with tissue paper.

Emulsion testing

- 1. Place one or two droplets of the sample onto the prism face.
- 2. Close cover and aim prism face toward light.
- 3. Look through eyepiece and take direct reading from 0 to 15 scale.
- 4. After measuring, wipe prism face and cover with clean tissue paper.

Note: Should it prove difficult to obtain a strong clear reading on the scale repeat steps 1 and 2 to ensure a continuous film of liquid on the prism.





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Interpretation and scale readings

The correlation between scale readings and emulsion strength varies between different water mix cutting fluids – because they do not all have the same quantity of oil in the concentrate. See Table 1 for Refractometer readings (%).

Table 1

Product Dilution ratio	Ultracut 250 RS stock no. 685-702	Ultracut 255 RS stock no. 685-718	Ultracut 320 RS stock no. 685-724	Ultracut 370 RS stock no. 685-730	Ultracut 430 RS stock no. 685-752
15:1					
20:1	5.5	5.0	5.0		
25:1	4.3	4.1	3.9		
30:1	3.3	3.3	3.1		1.5
35:1	3.0	2.8	2.8		1.2
40:1	2.6	2.4	2.4	1.7	1.1
45:1			2.2	1.5	1.0
50:1			2.1	1.3	0.9
55:1			1.6	1.2	0.5
60:1			1.5	1.1	0.5
65:1				1.0	
70:1				1.0	

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