



Fischer is opening new facilities for CHROME VI-free plating

FISCHER is now using a CHROME VI-free surface galvanisation process, and so is already meeting the new REACH regulation that will come into effect in 2024.

The new CHROME III surface plating facility, which was originally announced in 2019, went into operation at the Fischer Oberflächentechnologie (Fischer Surface Technologies) site in Katzenelnbogen at the end of 2020.

To achieve this, the Fischer Group has invested more than 2 million euros in renovating the buildings and expanding the electroplating facilities at the Katzenelnbogen site, despite the difficult economic conditions caused by coronavirus. FISCHER Oberflächentechnologie GmbH can now offer its customers CHROME VI-free electroplating as an important step in its plans for totally CHROME VI-free production.

This investment means that the Fischer Group can supply customers in the automotive, sanitary ware and consumer goods sectors with high-quality CHROME III designer-look surface finishes that have an elegant appearance long before the changeover date required throughout the EU. The next step will be to switch the acid pickling pretreatment over to CHROME VI-free. To this end, the Fischer Group is playing an active part in some round robin testing instigated by the Galvanised Plastics Trade Association (FGK) towards the development of CHROME VI-free acid pickling processes. The Fischer Group, together with its process chemicals supplier, HSO Herbert Schmidt GmbH & Co. KG from Solingen, is also testing the latest pretreatment processes, using in-house test equipment. It is also using some of the first entirely CHROME VI-free processing facilities in conjunction with another electroplating partner, and developing these further for their own requirements.

For more information about any of the options for giving your projects a CHROME III surface finish, please contact our sales department.