

Press release

Gross-Siegharts, October 7, 2013

Innovative with lemon juice

WALICLEAN - this is the new product from our standard product range.

Citric acid instead of chemicals, reduction of costs and time:

WALICLEAN is an innovative system, which was invented by technicians of Austrian Technik and developed by TEST-FUCHS into a marketable product. Apart from protecting the environment it also saves costs and time. In February 2013 Waliclean was awarded with the Environmental Award of the city of Vienna, a remarkable achievement.

An important invention for eco-friendly maintenance: WALICLEAN

Cleaning the aircraft's toilet systems has always been time-consuming and complex. In the past, three different maintenance methods were applied several times a year to achieve the undisturbed functioning of the aircraft's toilet system. Currently it takes several steps at different time intervals to keep the waste lines free of scale. The toilet systems have to be cleaned with chemicals, high-pressure water and highly concentrated acids to remove the scale in the tubes. The highly aggressive acids have to be stored at considerable costs. The ambition of the innovative cleaning system WALICLEAN is to improve the work process and to reduce costs significantly.

WALICLEAN is based on a simple principle: a solution of standard citric acid and warm water circulates through the aircraft's waste line with system compatible negative pressure. After the successful cleaning process the toilet system is rinsed with clear water. The rinse water is disposed of via the sewage system as there are no environmentally dangerous chemicals. Austrian Airlines estimates that working with the new WALICLEAN cleaning method has saved approximately 7,165 litres of chemicals annually. Today 2,100 kg of environmentally friendly standard citric acid is used instead of chemicals. As a result, the environment is not harmed, employees are protected and storage, transportation and disposal conditions of aggressive chemicals have disappeared.

The reduction of weight after using WALICLEAN is about 75 kg in the case of an Austrian Airlines' Boeing 777, which amounts to an annual saving of 44 tonnes of kerosene per aircraft. That is equivalent to 138 tonnes of CO₂. Using the new cleaning method will also generate substantial financial savings. In total, more than 4,000 man-hours were saved in one year for Austrian Airlines.

Lufthansa Technik have been using WALICLEAN since autumn 2013 and it is expected to create significant process improvements and cost savings already in the next future.

Find a link to the video here:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uFIGgwtKdsY&feature=player_detailpage

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