

## Staku to revolutionise lubrication

Staku's "e-molyphos" produces coherent and stable phosphate layers that contain an optimised amount of lubricant, reducing or even eliminating the need for other lubricants such as wire soap. The treatment times for e-molyphos correspond of course to those of the widely used "e-phos" method, so that processing speeds of up to 3.0m/s at a coating length of as little as 3.5m can be achieved. Finished formed wires produced with this new technology are better protected against corrosion during interim storage than wires with only phosphated surfaces.

With e-molyphos, manufacturers often no longer need to lubricate their wires for drawing with conventional soaps, stearates or other lubricants, as the e-molyphos layer already contains sufficient lubricant for smooth production. This revolutionary technology is particularly useful for stainless steel wire forming, as it allows for seamless inline production of both contin-

uous wire and wire rod materials by linking the coating plant to the forming machine. Since 1999, German Staku Anlagenbau has invested heavily in the further development of its highly successful e-phos technology for use in the wire forming and drawing industries. To date, around 25 plants for the production of steel wire, spring wire, cold heading wire, prestressing wire, and cutting wires are already in operation all over the globe. By opting for what is known as inline technology, many companies have replaced their wire-dip plants and now benefit from significant savings in capital investment while reducing their production costs.

Production methods based on inline technology represent best practice and enable Staku customers all over the world to manufacture wires in a cost-effective way with minimum impact on the environment. With the e-molyphos coating method launched in 2015, Staku now offers a solution for the inline electrolytic phosphating

of both ferritic and austenitic steels. This innovative technology is registered for patent protection and uses a new electrolyte based on the successful zinc-calcium phosphating system sold under the e-phos trade name. By adding an innovative substance to the e-phos electrolyte, the phosphate layers become self-lubricant. This new solution can be easily integrated into existing systems, and the type and degree of lubrication can be adjusted within certain limits to suit the requirements of the wire manufacturer.

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