

A COMPARISON OF THE SIFCO PROCESS[®] AND RAPID: MEETING INDUSTRY NEEDS WHEN PLATING CONDUCTIVE DEPOSITS

Today's demanding industrial applications of electroplated deposits require well-engineered and proven preparatory and plating procedures. The ability to apply adherent, high quality deposits onto localized areas and to achieve a precise deposit thickness is especially important when plating conductive coatings such as silver onto the variety of base metals used today on components for power generation and distribution. Additionally important is the ability to apply these deposits with as little risk as possible to both the operator and the environment.

The SIFCO Process[®] of brush plating is an industrial plating process that is designed for use in OEM applications as well as for salvage and repair. The equipment is heavy duty and flexible. It is designed to operate at maximum output for sustained periods and work with a wide range of shapes and sizes of parts that are made of a wide variety of base materials.

SIFCO has been developing and refining its products over the last forty years to provide the highest quality, adherent deposits that are needed to meet the performance criteria set forth by the manufacturers of power generation and distribution equipment.

SIFCO's Products Meet Industry's Needs For Plating Conductive Coatings

Need	SIFCO	Rapid
Safety	Non-Cyanide Solutions	Cyanide Solutions present an unnecessary risk to operators and the environment.
Ability to control deposit thickness	Ampere-hour values to obtain a desired thickness are calculated prior to plating any part. Digital ampere-hour meters, used to accurately control plating thickness, are standard equipment on all SIFCO power packs.	None. Brush-on test solution is used after the fact to determine if adequate thickness (undetermined) has been applied.
Broad range of current requirements for small to large parts	Power Packs ranging from 15A to 500A can be operated at full output for sustained periods.	Rapid's one portable plater is limited a maximum of 30A, but only for intermittent operation.
Polarity control for diverse base materials	All power packs have forward/reverse switches that are used with preparatory procedures that produce superior adhesion on all commonly used base materials.	None
Range of input voltages	SIFCO Power Packs are available with 110V, 220V and 440V, 50/60Hz.	Limited to 110-120V, 50/60Hz
Broad range of plating tools for diverse industry components	SIFCO offers a wide variety of shapes and sizes of anodes. Custom anodes are easily manufactured to be used with very large or complex shapes.	Rapid offers only 3" and 4" applicators that limit total tool contact area and will not conform to the shape of all but the most simple surfaces.
High rate of deposition	SIFCO's non-cyanide silver is applied at the rate of 0.020" per hour,	Not available
Documented performance data of plated deposits	Available from SIFCO's Technology Department.	Not available

Used by: Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Duke Power, General Electric, Florida Power and Light, Northeast Utilities, Ontario Hydro, Raytheon, Siemens-Westinghouse



APPLIED SURFACE CONCEPTS

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. . . and Moving Beyond**

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