Ford Claims High Performance/Economy/Reduced Maintenance with Lakos Separator

Achieving 3-micron clarity in a soluble-oil coolant filtration system, a Lakos Separator helps eliminate tool wear, re-work and scrap machining on a Ford Motor Company reaming operation. Installed as a polishing filter on the system’s side stream to their reaming equipment, the Lakos Separator removes metal grindings, swarf and other abrasives. Spokesmen at Ford’s Lima Engine Plant in Ohio claim the Lakos Separator provides “an economical solution to what may have been an expensive system revision and extensive production downtime.”

The coolant for this system is drawn from the main flow line after passing through a media-type vacuum filter. A booster pump then delivers 350 U.S. gpm (79.5 m3/hr), directly to the flanged-domed Lakos unit. Separated solids are simply bled continuously from the Lakos Separator onto existing solids evacuation hardware.

Pleased with the improved system performance, spokesmen for Ford Motor Company also complimented Lakos for its engineering assistance, which helped reduce purchasing and installation costs.
Coolant drawn through the indexing media cloth via turbine pumps (A) is filtered to 35 microns, suitable for use on most of their machining equipment. The Lakos Separator (B), however, delivers 3-micron performance, necessary for their reaming operations. (Note: Such small particle size removal is possible due to the high specific gravity of the solids involved.) Booster pumps (C) draw coolant from the main flow line (at D) to the Lakos Separator. A back flow prevention device (E) keeps coolant from escaping through the separator’s purge (which is kept open at continuous bleed) when system is idle.

Others who have used Lakos Separators for similar applications:

FORD MOTOR COMPANY; Dearborn, MI
DELCO-MORRAINE; Morraine, OH
GENERAL MOTORS; Ontario, Canada
SPERRY-VICKERS; Omaha, NE
GENERAL TIRE & RUBBER; Mt. Vernon, IL

SAGINAW STEERING GEAR; Athens, AL
TEXAS PIPE COUPLING; Hughes Springs, TX
MITSUBISHI MOTORS; Lonsdale, S.A.
BURGER IRON; Dayton, OH
FISHER BARTON, INC.; Watertown, WI