

## **Product Stewardship**

NPB is used for solvent vapor degreasing operations. The vapor degreaser contains heated NPB in a solvent reservoir or sump at the bottom, a condenser near the top, and freeboard above the condenser. Sufficient heat is introduced to boil the solvent and generate hot solvent vapor. Materials are immersed in vapors of boiling NPB to clean.

NPB vapor is heavier than air, displaces the air and fills the tank up to the condensing zone. The hot vapor condenses on the cooled condenser, maintains a fixed vapor level and creates a thermal balance. The parts are removed from the vapors, drained and dried.

NPB degreasing operations must follow these procedures:

- ◆ Work loads should not exceed designed degreaser capacity. Work should not occupy more than 50% of the open horizontal area of the machine unless the work permits easy passage of vapor through or around the machine.
- ◆ A tag is secured to each degreaser with maximum weight and volume of a single load expressed in terms of pounds per load and loads per hour.
- ◆ The vertical rate of entry and withdrawal of work loads should not exceed maximum degreaser design. The maximum degreaser design should not exceed 11 ft/min (3.4 m/min). Work loads are placed in free-draining non-porous baskets, trays, racks and positioned to eliminate solvent drag-out.
- ◆ Conduct all spraying of work loads in the vapor zone. Work loads remain in the vapor zone until condensation on the work loads has stopped.