

ROUTINE CHECKS

Keep machines running smoothly and protect yourself from exposure to fluid and mist.

Local exhaust ventilation (LEV) should be fitted on CNC machines to carry away any harmful metalworking fluid mist, which is difficult to see in normal lighting.

DAILY

- Visual and odour fluid check
- Check local exhaust ventilation is working properly
- Write it down

WEEKLY

- Concentration
- pH
- Bacteria dipslides
- Write results down



ANNUALLY (AT LEAST)

- Health check for lung and skin conditions with an occupational health professional



14 MONTHS

- Thorough examination and test local exhaust ventilation system (see HSE publication HSG258).



ANY TIME

- Report any health symptoms
- Get any issues checked out

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Dipslides
- Incubator
- Refractometer (concentration)
- pH paper test strips (or electronic pH meter)

Exposure to metalworking fluids can cause harm to lungs and skin through inhalation or direct contact with unprotected skin; particularly hands, forearms and face. Breathing in the mist generated by machining can lead to lung diseases such as occupational asthma and occupational hypersensitivity pneumonitis. Metalworking fluid, coolant or white water is a hazardous substance that comes under Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH).

For guidance and practical advice, see workright.campaign.gov.uk/metalworkingfluid



Scan for further advice