

Supersonic gas-liquid cleaning system

CryCle Cryogenic Development NV, the Netherlands, is offering a gas/liquid supersonic cleaning system as a replacement for CFC-113 solvents. The NASA-patented technology was originally developed at Kennedy Space Centre (KSC) as a cleanliness verification tool for the Space Shuttle's mechanical and electronic parts.

The new cleaning system is suitable for a variety of applications, from cleaning electronic circuit boards to scouring building exteriors. It incorporates one or more converging-diverging nozzles to accelerate a gas-liquid mixture to supersonic velocity for cleaning of or contamination removal from various articles or components. It uses less than 100 ml/min of water. The liquid (typically water) can be collected and sampled to verify cleanliness. It can also be easily adapted to accept virtually any gas-liquid mix and flow rate combination.

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