

Ed,

I just wanted to let you know how the new brushed material performed during our cutting tests. I have to say first off, this material has some of the cleanest and consistent surfaces of any carbon steel we have worked with. Surface consistency is one of the more important factors in ensuring that you obtain the same cut quality on all parts processed over the entire sheet. Superior cut consistency was definitely one of the characteristics I noticed when working with the Brushed material.

In the past, we have found that Pickled and Oiled material traditionally cut very well on our Lasers. One of the drawbacks of P&O is the fact that processing the material produces a great deal of smoke and the sheets are a bit more difficult to handle when covered in oil. Furthermore, the finished parts often need to be cleaned up before painting and assembly. During our testing, we noticed that the Brushed material produced very little smoke and the parts were dry to the touch.

For laser users the most important criteria is the speed at which the material can be processed. Our testing revealed some interesting results. When testing 1/4" mild steel, we found that the Brushed material could be processed 13% faster than standard Hot Rolled steel and 8% faster than P&O. This information is very promising because mid-range mild steel makes up a significant percentage of what our customers are processing.

I would like to congratulate you on the development of what appears to be a very strong contribution to the industry. I think our customers will be excited to learn that this product exists. We plan on using this material in our own facility when possible and I will definitely pass along the test results to our customers.

Regards,

Tim Tapper
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