

## WASH/BLOWOFF STATIONS

**Problem:** Quite often Murata customers require their parts to be completely free of chips or debris when they are unloading the part after machining. They may need to be this way because they are being taken to a secondary operation or they are being taken to a Post Process Gage (PPG) for automatic inspection. With either of these cases, the parts **must be** clean and debris free in order to prevent any inspection or loading issues later in the process. Chip removal from the part is one of the biggest challenges we face when setting up and installing a new machining process for our customers.

**Solution:** Wash/Blowoff Stations.

**Wash/Blowoff Stations:** Wash/blowoff stations are custom-made part cleaning stations that have air, water, or both routed to them by means of wash and/or air lines. They are normally connected to a solenoid which allows them to be turned on and off by a simple M or H code. There are many different kinds of wash/blowoff stations. They can be extremely intricate with many cleaning points to a single piece of tubing attached to one line with a single cleaning point. They are all designed to be part specific.

**How they are made:** All wash/blowoff stations are custom engineered by our design team at Murata. They are made by our fabricators and setup/installed by our applications team. They are usually made of cold-rolled steel, but can also be made of any material per customer request.

**How the process works:** The gantry picks up the part, takes it to the wash/blowoff station, cleans the part, and then takes it to the next step in the process. That next step could be an unload point, another loading and machining process, a post process gage (PPG), or a transfer station between one machine to the next. While where the part is taken after being cleaned is virtually limitless, the basic process of cleaning the part remains the same.

Below are examples of wash/blowoff stations that were engineered by our design team and are currently being used in the field with great results. If you are experiencing any chip or debris removal issues, wash/blowoff stations would be a good solution. Contact Jeff Kalmbach (704 875 9280, Ext. 279) at Murata to discuss the use of wash/blowoff stations and how they can benefit your machining process. **Remember**, in addition to selling machine tools, we also offer our experience and knowledge in a wide range of machine processes to assist in resolving any problems or issues you may be experiencing.

