

# YOUR SOURCE FOR SOLDERING ACCESSORIES

## TT-95 PLATO® TIP-TIN

#### • LEAD-FREE TIP TINNER / CLEANER

Plato's Tip-Tin provides fast, efficient cleaning and re-tinning of highly oxidized soldering iron tips safely and efficiently. This thermally-stable compound is lead-free, ESD, and environmentally safe.

A well-tinned soldering tip improves operator performance and satisfaction. Just wipe the oxidized soldering tip at normal soldering temperature into the tip tinner for a few seconds until the bright tinning surrounds the working end of the tip. Wipe excess residue on a wet cellulose sponge.

- Extends life of tip
- Fast response
- · Lead free
- Easy to use



Tip-Tin TT-95 Tip Tinner/Cleaner

## AB-3 TIP POLISHING BAR

Plato® Polishing Bar restores detinned tips for additional service by grinding off baked on oxidation. Save money on soldering iron tips by extending their lives.

Normally, detinned tips (unable to hold solder) are discarded. If the tips are not pitted or worn, buffing with the Plato® Polishing Bar will clean the tips and restore new life.



**AB-3 Tip Polishing Bar** 

## 01-5000 DESOLDERING TIP CLEANING TOOL

This handy maintenance tool is used to remove solder and flux build-up from inside desoldering tips and solder collector paths.

Select the proper diameter rod to push out any unwanted loose particles or solder. Proper daily maintenance of desoldering equipment minimizes tip clogging and improves performance.

May be used on all popular desoldering equipment such as Pace $^{\circ}$ , Weller $^{\circ}$ , Plato $^{\circ}$ , Air-Vac $^{\circ}$ , APE $^{\circ}$ , Hakko $^{\circ}$ , and many others. Contains various tip cleaning rods from .020" (.5mm) to .065" (1.65mm) diameter.



Tip Cleaning Tool 01-5000

# SOLDERING IRON HOLDERS & TIP WIPERS

#### • EFFICIENT, SAFE SOLDERING STATIONS

Stations allow the soldering iron to be removed from the holder and the tip to be cleaned in one continuous time-saving motion. Heavy double spiral wire construction protects the operator and secures the soldering iron. Other features include heavy duty plated construction and non-skid feet. Holders fit most irons up to 60 watt size.

Rotating tip wipers clean tips and allow residues to drop into the base, keeping the sponges clean. Rotation also keeps the sponges uniformly wetted, and prevents cratering and gouging. The heavy non-corrosive, non-skid, porcelain base provides a large water reservoir and eliminates rusting and corrosion. CS-7 Replacement Sponge Sets fit all tip wipers shown.





TWH-444 1 Single Holder w/tip wiper TWH-444-2 1 Double Holder w/tip wiper

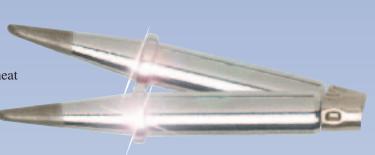
TWH-444-2 1 Double Holder w/ti H-100 1 Single Holder TW-555 1 Rotating tip wiper

# SOLDERING TIP MAINTENANCE GUIDE

EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR SOLDERING TIPS

Many operators unknowingly throw away soldering tips prematurely, when steps can be taken to give them new life. Soldering tips that fail to work are often simply detinned, coated with baked-on flux and other contaminants.

Detinned tips cannot be wetted by solder and fail to efficiently transfer heat to solder joints. Detinning is caused by a variety of factors, from operating at excessive temperatures to improper care and handling. The following are a few basic procedures that will prolong the life of your tips, speed up your soldering process, and save you money.



## Step 1: Basic Tip Care with Sponge



TAKING
CARE OF
NEW TIPS
CAN MAKE
THEM LAST
2-3 TIMES
LONGER!

Consistently wiping off your soldering tip on a damp cellulose sponge is the most important thing you can do to maximize tip life. To prevent flux rosin and other contaminants from building up, wipe tip across a damp sponge while rotating.

The sponge needs to be damp, but not overly moist (which will cool down your tip and slow down heat recovery). Wet with ordinary tap water (use deionized water if your tap water is excessively hard) and wring out the sponge once.

Sponges with holes or slots can provide more surface area and allow contaminants to drop to the bottom of the sponge tray, keeping the wiping surface cleaner. Never wipe the tip on abrasive materials such as dry sponges, man-made sponges, rags, paper towels, or metal wool. Remember to retin after wiping if shutting down for the day.

**Sponges with Slots & Holes** 



## **Step 2: Cleaning with Tip Tinner**



LIGHTLY
OXIDIZED
TIP
LIGHT
BROWN
SURFACE

Eventually oxidation will build up that a sponge cannot remove. Tip Tinner is designed to aggressively remove light oxidation, effectively retinning without harming the tip surface. Wipe the oxidized tip at normal soldering temperature over the tip tinner while rotating until bright tinning surrounds the tip's working end. Immediately flood the working area of the tip with solder to retin.

Tip-Tin TT-95 Tip Tinner/Cleaner



#### Step 3: Polish Off Oxidation

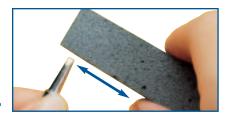


HIGHLY
OXIDIZED TIP

DARK BROWN
& BLACK
SCALY
SURFACE

Heavy oxidation that is not removed by Tip Tinner requires the use of a Polishing Bar. Wipe the cool tip (never hot) against the bar until the black contamination is removed. Take care not to be overly aggressive, which can remove iron plating as well. Immediately flood the working area of the tip with solder to retin.

AB-3 Tip Polishing Bar



## Step 4: Time for a New Tip



PITTED SURFACE IS IRREPARABLE After extended use and excessive oxidation, all soldering tips will eventually become pitted, at which point they must be replaced (see pages 44-45 for a handy cross-reference guide). To keep your tip from pitting prematurely, remember to always rotate your tip between each solder joint. Solder fed to the same spot can cause pits or holes. Never use the tip to scratch or pry components.

**Rotate Tip Between Solder Joints** 

