

CASE STORY:

Materialographic Training Course | Uddeholm AB



No More Artefacts Plus Colleagues with New Skills

Åsa Nilsson knows from her nine years of experience working with quality control at the multinational producer of high alloyed tool steel, Uddeholm, how additional knowledge can help with both the quality of work and organizational capabilities.

This approach led her and two of her colleagues to sign up for Struers training courses: [The Professional Materialographer](#) (TPM).

Challenge with Etching and Halfmoon-Shaped Scratches

During her training in basic and advanced materialography in 2016 and 2019, Åsa worked with different challenges which she had identified: reproducible etching of hardened steel and halfmoon-shaped scratches after grinding. She also attended the training with an ambition to learn how to optimize preparation methods in automated preparation equipment, [Hexamatic](#), and finally to broaden the materialographic knowledge of her team.

“You get all the help you need”

One of the things that Åsa liked most about the TPM training was the opportunity to work with her own samples in a functionable showroom fully equipped with materialographic products. Having mentioned the facilities, Åsa explained that what really made the difference was getting input from [Struers application specialists](#):

“It is a giant opportunity to get a revised, overall view on your own materialographic methods. The input from Struers application specialists is quite unique. You get all the help you need.”

Challenge

The preparation result is not acceptable due to halfmoon-shaped scratches. Too few people in the organization have materialographic troubleshooting skills.

Solution

Three people are attending Struers training courses: TPM Basic and TPM Advanced and are sharing their new knowledge with their colleagues.

Results

Reproducible preparation methods have been established, and abilities to troubleshoot have been improved significantly in the organization.

Good Foundation for Solving Future Challenges

Åsa recommends the TPM advanced course to users, where troubleshooting is a part of daily work. This can be for more experienced users or users who work with samples of many different materials or purposes.

Åsa also sees a general benefit from TPM courses: meeting other materialographers with similar challenges.



One of Åsa Nilsson's challenges is halfmoon-shaped scratches after grinding.

“ The input from Struers application specialists is quite unique. You get all the help you need.

Åsa Nilsson

About Uddeholm AB

[Uddeholm AB](#) is a multinational producer of high alloyed tool steel with production facilities in Hagfors, Sweden. Since 1991, the company is a part of the Austrian Böhler-Uddeholm group which, in turn, is part of the Voestal-pine AG group since 2007. Uddeholms AB has 800 employees in Hagfors, Sweden. Globally, the Uddeholm group employs 3,000 people.

Struers TPM Basic

This is a training course covering all materialographic processes from cutting to microscopy from both the theoretical and practical perspectives. The training includes lectures and practical work in the lab, including work on the participants' own samples.

Struers TPM Advanced

This is a training course which focuses on solving typical challenges in materialography. The training includes lectures in both troubleshooting methodology and practical work where customers' own challenges and samples are the focus.

See more at struers.com/academy

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