



Safe – Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

Abrasive Blasting is a technique in which a combination of air or water with abrasive media is used to clean and prepare a substrate for applying coatings or rubber lining. Existing coatings to be removed will need to be identified prior to the start of the project by the owner or customer for any potentially harmful or toxic substances, including zinc, lead or chemicals that could be in the existing coating.

1) UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES IS SILICA SAND TO BE USED AS A BLASTING MATERIAL.

The owner or customer is to specify the type of the abrasive blasting material to be used.

2) Protective Equipment.

The NIOSH (national Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) recommends that workers wear appropriate protective gear when working with abrasive blasting equipment. The following is some of the requirements.

- A. Clean filtered air supply.
- B. Sealed blasting helmet.
- C. Hearing protection.
- D. Protective shoes.
- E. Heavy clothing.
- F. Heavy gloves.

3) Abrasive Blasting Equipment.

All abrasive blasting equipment will be inspected at the start of each shift for any breaks in the hoses, loose fittings and wear in the nozzle or safety controller. If any defects are found work will not proceed until repairs made. A complete inspection and testing of the dead man system will be required prior to starting work. The air compressor if used will be checked for oil and water leaks plus a complete system check for proper pressure output under load (90 psi).

Workers must ensure air supply and filters for the helmet are in proper working condition and inspected at the start of each shift by a supervisor.

Grounding of the abrasive blasting pot is required prior to the start of the project.



4) Protection Of On Site Equipment.

All working surfaces on and around the work area, such as bearing, valves with controllers and motors, should be removed if possible to protect from abrasive grit from the blasting. If this is not possible, these areas should be covered to prevent abrasive grit from entering.

5) Clean Up Of Abrasive Materials.

Workers doing the cleanup of the used abrasive material are required to wear dust masks and gloves at all times. Spent materials to be disposed of per customer requirements at their site or an approved area per their request.

6) Environmental Concerns.

Each project requirements will vary due to substrate requiring abrasive blasting, materials used and application. Each project and materials will be pre approved with the customer and their environmental department prior to the start of any job. Materials will also require customer approval prior to shipping to the job site.