

# Sponge Media Blasting

## Dry Reusable Abrasive Blasting



**Thompson**  
Industrial Services

### Safe, Dry, Low-dust Cleaning Method

Thompson's specialty sponge media abrasive blasting is a **safe, dry, low-dust method for cleaning, surface preparation, coating removal and optional profiling**. This method is a highly beneficial alternative to dusty, excessive bulk media handling/disposal, and more dangerous or environmentally unattractive traditional methods, and can be the exact alternative you need to hydroblasting, sand blasting or even dry ice blasting.

Thompson's specialty technique utilizing safe, synthetic sponge media embedded with micro-abrasive particles is an ideal method for pre-commissioning or operational cleaning, surface preparation and – optionally but simultaneously – profiling to stringent SSPC standards. This exceptionally low-dust and low rebound (ricochet) technology is a safe, dry, relatively low pressure (~70-100 PSI) process that improves coverage efficiency, productivity and reduces maintenance costs while protecting the workplace and the environment. It can also be **recycled for effective re-use typically 6 to 10 times**, decreasing cost and dramatically reducing disposal charges for a “greener” footprint vs traditional methods like sand blasting, often times while equipment remains in service.

### Dust Reduction of 98%

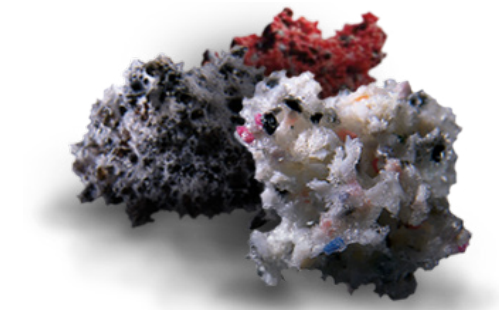
*This process reduces dust levels as much as 98% compared to ordinary abrasives, which allows blasting near other trades and sensitive equipment, often while in remaining in service. This not only **reduces downtime and enhances safety**, but the increased visibility and resulting industry-leading surface cleanliness assure **long-lasting coating life and asset preservation**.*

## ABRASIVE DETAILS

Any of 20+ different micro-abrasive types and grit sizes can be imbedded in the media. The abrasives range from 0-150 micron to achieve 0-6+mil profile options. It safely removes deposits from ultra-soft surfaces without damage to the substrate, or profiles for superior coating adhesion. Unique synthetic foam and engineered abrasives provides an optimum angular profile.



Sponge blasting vs. traditional dust levels



Specialty sponge media abrasive

### Benefits

- 98% reduced dust levels over ordinary dry abrasives
- Blast near sensitive equipment and active electrical components
- Blast near other trades
- No water, slurry or runoff problems
- Profile up to 125 microns
- Recyclable 5-10+ times – reducing transportation & disposal costs
- Extends new coating life & reduces future maintenance/downtime
- Increases equipment reliability (such as rotating equipment & compressors)
- Improved workplace health and safety
- No chemical risks or effluents

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## Why Sponge Blasting Over Conventional Methods

Conventional abrasives absorb little rebound energy, generating a greater rebound (a fact that generates risks to the operator), necessitating isolation of a larger area due to the need to contain the abrasive. Using sponge media dramatically reduces the containment required. Compound this advantage with its recyclability and extraordinary versatility with over 20 variations of micro-abrasives, it can be the ideal alternative to conventional means.

## Sponge Blasting Applications

### Cleaning

- Machine cleaning
- Parts refurbishment
- Interior and exterior wall
- Exterior/interior pipe cleaning

### Decontamination

#### (Nuclear power generation)

- Low-level decontamination
- Steam generator parts/tools
  - Stainless steel turbines
  - Reactor coolant piping
  - Turbine Rotors

### Industrial Coating Maintenance

- Railcars & mass-transportation
- Water and waste-water plants
- Petrochemical facilities
- Power plants
- Marine vessels
- Food processing
- Pulp and paper mills
- NDT etc. inspection prep.

## Safety. Quality. Integrity.

For over 30 years Thompson Industrial Services, LLC has provided comprehensive specialty industrial cleaning services to the Central and Southeast US, and now across the globe. We are committed to being the safest, highest quality industrial services provider, which means constantly evolving our capabilities.

**Our automated technologies substantially increase safety and productivity especially as we customize each project run by our experienced personnel.**

**We practice our commitment to safety, quality, and integrity through a company-wide BE SAFE, BE GOOD, BE GREAT culture, and we're here to solve ALL of your toughest challenges 24 hours a day.**

### Additional Services:

Automated Hydroblasting -12K, 20K, 40K PSI

Wet & Dry Vacuuming

Dry Ice Blasting

Chemical Cleaning

FINFOAM® Air-cooled Heat Exchanger Cleaning

Hydro-cutting of Steel & Concrete

Combustible Dust Remediation

Robotic Vacuuming

High-Volume Hydroblasting up to 1,200 GPM

Pneumatic- & Hydro-vacuum Excavation

In-Situ SCR Catalyst Cleaning

Custom Cleaning Solutions



Before sponge blasting & after chemical cleaning



After sponge blasting – achieved the maximum degree of cleaning



Turbine before & after



Difficult coating removal from tube sheets