News Release from Empire

A new pressure-type air-blast machine, employing a dual-nozzle arrangement that provides repeatable finishing results on concave parts while conserving compressed air and eliminating the need for masking, is now available from Empire Abrasive Equipment Company, a leading producer of air-blast equipment.

Already field proven on workpieces ranging from cookware to wheels, the machine combines two or four nozzles, manipulated by a ball-screw drive, with six rotating work stations on an indexing turntable conveyor to provide desired blast angle and coverage. Because the machine uses pressure nozzles rather than suction-blast guns—which would require more guns and compressed air to perform similar finishing jobs—operating costs are reduced. In addition, the inclusion of a programmable controller, which precisely governs nozzle stroke length and count, cuts labor costs by eliminating the need for masking on the exterior edges of concave workpieces.

Another feature, designed to mitigate one of the drawbacks traditionally associated with pressure-blast systems, is an automatic media-replenishing device that ensures 100% refills each time the machine's pressure vessel cycles by replacing broken-down media, extracted through the reclaiming, with an equal amount of fresh material in the storage hopper. As a result, more time is devoted to work and less to refilling.

The machine is also equipped with a tunable media reclaiming and vibratory grit classifier, both of which contribute to a more consistent media mix and repeatable finishing results. A continuous-duty cartridge collector removes dust, spent media and debris from the blasting process.

In addition to automated blasting machines, Empire offers manual cabinets, blast rooms and portable blasters, as well as a full line of parts and accessories. For more information, contact: Empire Abrasive Equipment Company, 2101 West Cabot Blvd., Langhorne, PA 19047-1893. Phone: (215) 752-8800. Fax: (215) 752-9373. Available worldwide.

New air-blast machine delivers consistent finishes on concave workpieces while reducing compressed-air and masking costs.