New Soft Shot Products from Peerless

There are two new soft metallic abrasive medias on the market that offer unique benefits. Called UltraSoft Shot and Flex-Shot, these products are produced by modifying the chemistry, microstructure and hardness of standard SAE grade steel shot thereby creating a blast media with a hardness of less than 20 HRC, well out of the normal range of Rockwell C, but is reported in this scale to allow easy comparisons with standard SAE steel shot, which is typically between 42 and 48 HRC. Unlike standard steel shot, these do not work harden in use but remain at the same hardness throughout their life.

UltraSoft Shot is a very durable, soft, non-aggressive blasting media that can be used to blast soft, delicate surfaces where little or no surface damage or change can be tolerated. UltraSoft Shot is available in six sizes, from US90 through US330, and can be used to deflash non-ferrous die castings; deburr powered metal parts; remove a light scale from heat treated parts; blast machined surfaces without damage to the machined areas; remove ceramic mold material from investment casting without damage to cast-in logos, part numbers, etc.; remove paint without texturing the surface; and a variety of other applications, many that are new to blast cleaning.

UltraSoft Shot is ideally suited for use in either airless blast machines or in pressure-type airblast cabinets. No complicated adjustments nor equipment modifications are necessary for switching a blast machine over to this media. The only recommendation is a thorough cleaning of the inside of the machine to remove all traces of harder medias with particular attention being paid to the base of the elevator, around the screw auger at the base of the cabinet, and any other places where abrasives accumulate. This can be accomplished with any good shop-vac and a little bit of time and patience. This purging of the harder abrasive is important because of the difference in hardness as any dislodged hard shot particles will leave their mark on the work surface once blasting with the soft shot begins.

Because UltraSoft Shot is non-aggressive, it is very easy on a blast machine and its wear parts. The life of blades, impellers, control cages and wear plates are extended by as much as four times. This is significant with blast machines that cradle the parts in a mesh basket or hang parts from hooks or fixtures. The wear on the media is reduced, as well. The durability of UltraSoft Shot is more than double the life of comparable sizes of SAE steel shot—comparative tests were performed in an Ervin Tester using the machine manufacturer’s procedures for the 100 percent replacement method.

Flex-Shot is identical in every way to UltraSoft except in particle size. Flex-Shot is available in one size only, FS70, and is used primarily to clean molds in the rubber, glass and aluminum industries. Flex-Shot is generally used in pressure systems but can be used in airless blast machines as long as particular attention is paid to the separator settings to keep the fine abrasive particles in use and not send them out to the dust collector or to the discharge bin.

For more information on these unique abrasive medias or to discuss your application, call Dennis Denyer at Peerless Metal Powders & Abrasive at 1-800-959-0320.

Ervin Announces New Appointment

We are pleased to announce Mr. Phil Waser has joined Ervin Industries as a Sales Representative in Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and parts of New York. Phil will be responsible for the sales of Amasteel and Amacast steel abrasives used in the metal working industry.

Ervin Industries is located at 3893 Research Park Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106-1168.

For more information on the company, contact Bill Rhodaberger, Vice President of Sales, at (734)769-4600 or send a fax to (734)769-6063. The email address is Sales@ervinindustries.com.

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