

Empire

2001032 Robotic Abrasive-Blast Machines Increase Speed, Precision and Efficiency

Lanshorne, PA. Abrasive-blast systems equipped with robots to manipulate blast nozzles are now available from Empire Abrasive Equipment Company, a leading producer of blast equipment, and J. H. Benedict Company, a specialist in robotics. These two firms recently formed a partnership to combine their respective technologies.

The advantages of robotic blasting, when compared to manual operation, include faster production, greater finishing precision and reduced energy costs. Robotic blasting is also typically more energy efficient than other automated methods because it reduces the number of blast nozzles required, thereby lowering compressed-air requirements. Versus manual blasting, robotic control normally cuts processing times by over 40 percent and power requirements by more than 30%, while achieving a level of finishing consistency not possible with manual control of the blast nozzle.

To control nozzle movement, these robotic machines employ six-axis arms capable of spanning a 360-degree, 53-inch work envelope. Operator interface consists of an alpha-numeric touch screen for part-program selection and fault annunciation. Other features include: a high intensity pressure-blast system, a tunable reclaimer to recycle abrasives, and an easily maintained cartridge-type dust collector.

For more information about robotic blasting systems:

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