INNOVATIONS IN AFTERMARKET
by Marty Magill | Senior Vice President | Wheelabrator Plus North America

Wheelabrator Plus – Optimizing Your Peening Process

WITH OVER 50,000 MACHINES supplied to 15,000 active customers worldwide, Wheelabrator Plus maintains the largest installed base in the industry. Although most well known for shotblast applications, Peening has been an integral part of the Wheelabrator offering since the earliest days. “Wheelapeening” was introduced in the 1940’s for automotive applications and Wheelabrator became the industry leader in peening of aircraft landing gear in the 1960’s. The legacy continues today with peening leadership in diverse industries including automotive, aerospace, defense and medical applications.

In 2005, the Wheelabrator Group solidified their formidable aftermarket services with the formation of Wheelabrator Plus. This dedicated business unit is focused on the critical needs of equipment owners to continually reduce cost and increase productivity. Wheelabrator Plus’ range of services is supported by regionally located sales and service teams offering the latest OEM technology. The most unique offering is their pioneering Equipment Modernization Program or EMP.

“We work with customers to understand performance objectives and optimize our equipment to meet customized surface preparation requirements as they change over time,” said Martin Magill, Sr. Vice President Wheelabrator Plus N.A. “Our job is to make sure that equipment continues to reliably deliver effective performance despite changes in product or process from the original commissioning.” The Equipment Modernization Program optimizes productivity and maintains specification compliance of an existing asset through technology upgrades.

The EMP process is applied to peening applications to meet evolving original equipment manufacturers specifications for peening reliability and compliance as well as accommodating changes in part configuration, specifications or media. In many cases this means modernizing the existing centrifugal blast wheels and nozzle/lance style technology. Project process scope may include automated monitoring as well as reporting of critical process control parameters such as media flow rate and velocity, media size and shape control, real-time process display and required audit compliance.

From automotive gears and engine components to wing spars and landing gear, a Wheelabrator Automated Peening system can be configured in the EMP process to comply with the necessary requirements. Typical benefits from EMP include:

- Improved productivity, throughput and cycle time reductions
- Reduced maintenance downtime
- Improved reliability
- Specification compliance
- Expanded capacity to support product offering
- Reduced abrasive consumption
- EHS and environmental compliance

Wheelabrator Group’s thousands of customer equipment solutions, comprehensive process knowledge and dedicated technical teams provide the confidence to tackle the most challenging equipment upgrade opportunities. Whether new equipment to meet your growth requirements or productivity improvements to an existing asset, contact Wheelabrator Group to optimize your peening and cleaning operations at info@wheelabratorgroup.com.

Wheelabrator Plus will help you upgrade your existing centrifugal blast wheels or nozzle/lance-style technology for peening applications.