



Dry Ice Blasting...A Better Cleaning Compare to Other Cleaning Methods

Blast Cleaning Comparison Chart					
Blasting Cleaning Technique	Waste for Disposal	Abrasive	Toxic	Electrically Conductive	Performance Comparison
Dry Ice	No	No	No	No	Excellent
Sand	Yes	Yes	No*	No	OK
Glass Beads	Yes	Yes	No*	No	OK
Walnut Shells	Yes	Yes	No*	No	Limited
Steam	No	No	No	Yes	Poor
Solvents	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Limited

* Each of these blast cleaning materials becomes contaminated upon contact if used to clean hazardous objects. When that happens, these materials are then classified as toxic waste requiring safe disposal.

Dry Ice Blasting - A General Comparison Chart		
Issue	Traditional	Dry Ice Blasting
Equipment Downtime	Cleaned in dedicated cleaning area; Disassembly/reassembly; Drying time required.	Equipment can be cleaned in place; Dry process - equipment restart immediately after cleaning
Hazardous Waste	Cleaner becomes and treated as a secondary contaminant	No additional contaminant; Dry ice sublimates with contact with targeted surface
Labor Hours	Intensive hand scrubbing; Lengthy cleanings; Follow-up cleaning-up can be lengthy	Dramatically reduced - often completed in a quarter of the time or better
Quality of Cleaning	Poor to average	Excellent
Potential Equipment Damage	Grit abrasions; Grit contamination; Movement Of equipment to and from cleaning area	No equipment damage; Preventive maintenance very realistic as labor hours are significantly less
Safety	Health threats from solvents; Water-based cleaning pose hazards around electrical equipment; Threats to environment	Standard safety precautions; Dry process - safe around electrical equipment
Cost	Cleaner becomes additional hazardous waste; Expensive solvents; Additional labor	Minimal - cost of dry ice