

OGN

OIL & GAS NEWS

The petroleum
industry weekly
for Asia-Pacific
& the Middle East

KUWAIT

10 TIMES WEEKLY FROM DUBAI



JUNE 1 - 7, 1998 Vol. 15, No. 21. • ISSN 0217-5541 • Reg No. 1 OGN 025

26

JUBAIL & YANBU

Sponge-Jet system both a money and time saver

SURFACE preparation, paint removal and surface cleaning projects using Sponge-Jet saves time and money, and the key to its success is the different dust absorbing media comprising of a variety of abrasives embedded in an open cell, urethane sponge matrix.

The sole supplier for the Sponge-Jet Media in Saudi Arabia, Hajjan Trading & Contracting Est. (Hatcon), points out that it is colour coded for easy identification of the abrasive type contained in the sponge. Thus, red and silver media containing steel grit and aluminium oxide respectively would be used for metals to provide a Sa

2.5 or Sa 3 quality finish with profiles from 25 to 100 microns.

This surface can easily support a protective coating life of 10 to 20 years instead of the three years anticipated from needle gun or other St3 type power tool cleaned surfaces.

The Sponge-Jet Feed Unit requires a compressor supplying six cu m at seven bars of clean, dry air. Sponge media is poured into a hopper on top of the feed unit and falls through a pop-up valve into the pressure pot.

When the Sponge-Jet media hits the surface it deforms (flattens), loses most of its energy, and rebounds at low velocity.

Rebound media only three metres from the surface will not cause injury to unprotected skin. Consequently, simple containment using lightweight plastic curtains allows other crafts nearby to continue work safely.

The Sponge-Jet system provides maximum operating flexibility. Choice of nonabrasive containing media, blast pressure adjustment from 20 psi to 100 psi to allow for varying cleaning and profiling requirements, and the ability to adjust the disc or auger feed speed for optimum media usage to work speed are but a few features.

After use, the sponge media is simply shovelled or vacuumed up and passed



Sponge-Jet Feed Units are available in 280 and 85 litre capacities

through a particle size classifier/sifter (grader) unit powered by electric or air motors.

The Sponge media can be recycled up to 10 times and it is recommended that sponge

media be regraded each time it is used. Since the Sponge media is recycled many times media transport costs are reduced dramatically and disposal costs become less than US\$15 per tonne.