Preparing Gas Pipeline Weld Seams on Po River

**Project 705**

- Major river, spanning east to west Italy
- Sensitive residential environment; cultivated fields and populated villages
- New pipeline development
- Weld seam preparation
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Project Details:
- 35cm (14in) diameter pipe welded every 10m (33ft)
- River-crossing sections 2km (1.25 miles)
- Total project 18km (11 miles)

Specifications:
- Metal cleaned, then profiled to 50 microns (2 mils)
- SA2.5 / NACE 2 / SP-10
- To “White Blast Cleaning”
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Chose Sponge-Jet based on:

• Conventional abrasive - hard to contain; potential water contamination

• Sponge Media is easily contained, collected and reused without leaving dust or pollutants in the pipe or air

• Used 200HP and 35-P Recycler

• Silver 80 Sponge-Media™
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Outcome:

• Sponge Media blasting allowed the pipeline to be built adjacent to a residential bridge, reducing the planned pipe length from 38km (23 miles) to 18km (11 miles) - saving 20km (12.5 miles) of pipeline

• No contamination to the river or surrounding villages

• Reduced staging and transport costs: Sponge Media was reused on site, so that Sponge Media, blasting/recycling equipment, welding equipment, crane, generator and compressor were all on one vehicle