

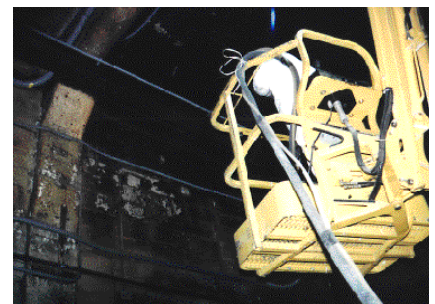
Fire Restoration/Renovation in Zinc Galvanizing Plant

Maintenance Contract Services, Inc. uses Green Sponge Media™ abrasives and the Sponge Blasting™ System to clean black char, soot and contaminants from facility walls



A chemical storage tank fire in a Mid-Atlantic (US) galvanizing plant required quick cleaning of heavy accumulation of burned plastic, char, soot and aged contaminants from concrete walls and ceilings. Plant management hired Maintenance Contract Services, Inc. (MCS) to clean and restore 50,000 ft² (4,645 m²) in the pickling area of the plant while many manufacturing operations safely continued. After considering other cleaning and abrasive blasting technologies, MCS chose to use the Sponge-Jet Sponge Blasting™ System and gentle Green Sponge Media™ abrasives to complete the project, which was based on a few key process characteristics:

- **Speed of Cleaning** - Manufacturing operations had to continue during the cleaning process. As a result, a fast technology was required. The air-driven, Sponge Blasting System was chosen because it allowed for higher cleaning production rates, and lower manual labor costs compared to hand-wiping.
- **Dry Process** - Electrical conduit externally mounted on the walls and water-sensitive manufacturing equipment ruled out the used of high pressure water cleaning. Sponge Blasting is a dry process, with no slurry, run-off or added leachates.
- **Sensitive & Aggressive** - Tests determined which process would limit damage to the concrete substrate. Sponge Media abrasive was the only solution aggressive enough to quickly clean deposits and cause the least damage.



Visit Sponge-Jet, Inc. at
www.SpongeJet.com
 or call **603-610-7950**
 to learn more about the
 Sponge Blasting System

MCS cleaned the heavy char, soot, and plastic deposits as estimated at 5 ft²/minute (28 m²/hr); cleaning rates in lighter areas were much higher than estimated at 12 ft²/minute (67 m²/hr). Green Sponge Media abrasive was efficiently reused 8 times - minimizing media costs. Walls were prepared for repainting with minimal interruption to operations. Facility managers and the insurance adjuster were pleased with MCS and the Sponge Blasting Process.