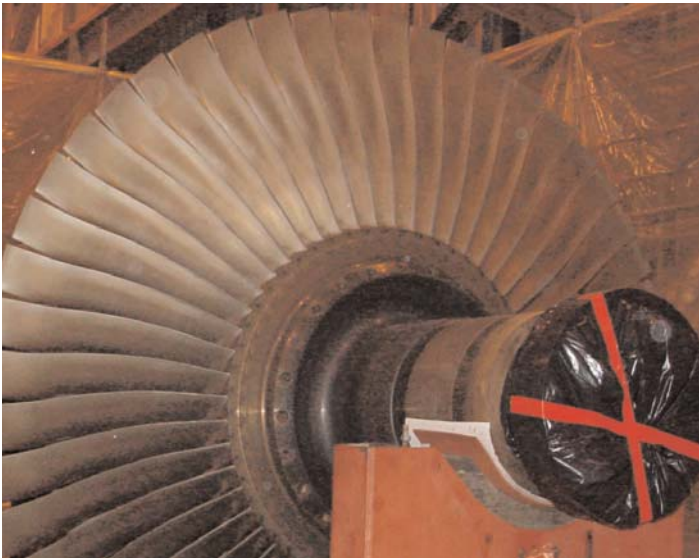


# Cleaning Turbine Fans in Puerto Rican Power Plant

*A maintenance contractor cleans contaminants from turbine fans using Silver Sponge Media™ abrasive, reduces shutdown time and saved plant money*



A power plant scheduled a month-long shutdown to remove residue and aged surface contaminants from 158m<sup>2</sup> [1,700ft<sup>2</sup>] of stainless steel turbine fans. The turbine's base would also be refurbished and bearings and seals would be replaced. Plant engineers searched for a way to streamline maintenance and reduce the extra cost of sending the turbine out for cleaning. With engineering approval, the project contractor used a low dust and low rebound composite abrasive technology called Sponge-Jet Sponge Media abrasive. Silver Sponge Media abrasive with 220-grit and 320-grit aluminum oxide was selected to remove the contaminants and leave the stainless steel substrate unmarred. The contractor noted the following benefits:

- **Blast-Clean in Sensitive Environments** - Sponge Media abrasives drastically suppress potential airborne dust at the source. As a result, simplistic containment was quickly erected and blast-cleaning took place within just five meters (15ft) from the original turbine location.
- **Limit Shutdown Time** - With process dust efficiently suppressed, trades were able to conduct maintenance on other parts of the turbine without interruption; maintenance that was originally scheduled to begin after blasting-cleaning.
- **Sensitive yet Aggressive** - Silver Sponge Media abrasive provided the perfect combination of abrasiveness and sensitivity to quickly and effectively clean the substrate.



Visit Sponge-Jet, Inc. at  
[www.SpongeJet.com](http://www.SpongeJet.com)  
or call **603-610-7950**  
to learn more about the  
Sponge Blasting System

Using Silver Sponge Media abrasives, the contractor cut the shutdown time by 60% (30 to 10 days), blast-cleaning at 5.5m<sup>2</sup>/hr [1ft<sup>2</sup>/min]. Plant engineers remarked how easily the process was to control and were impressed that nearby trades could continue maintenance during blast-cleaning.