Starblast™ Ultra

Blasting Abrasive

Railcar Maintenance Performance at General Railway

Case History

Starblast™ Ultra is the latest, aggressive mineral abrasive for blasting applications offered by Chemours. It was designed originally to help Cape Canaveral refurbish the U.S. Space Shuttle launch pad 39-B and was so successful, companies are now using it to remove paint, heavy rust and other coatings. The following case history from General Railway illustrates the superior effectiveness of Starblast™ Ultra in maintenance applications.

General Railway in Tampa, Florida, needed a heavy-duty abrasive to blast through the paint on the railcars it repairs and repaints. They chose Starblast™ Ultra from Chemours over lower-priced competitive products. The efficiency of Starblast™ Ultra in cutting through thick coatings and heavy rust, along with low abrasive consumption, was key to their decision. The product's quality performance far outweighs any price differential, especially when you consider how Starblast™ Ultra can eliminate costly touch-up problems caused by surface embedment of other abrasives.

Starblast™ Ultra not only cuts through the toughest coatings with remarkable ease, it offers all the proven benefits of the Starblast™ line including low dusting, recyclability, low free silica content and high efficiency. And, it helps boost productivity while reducing labor costs. At General Railway, blasters are working faster and accomplishing

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more than with other, lower-cost abrasives.

According to Bruce Foster, Purchasing and Marketing Manager of General Railway, "The value-in-use and other advantages of Starblast™ Ultra make it our preferred abrasive. Starblast™ is uniform, visibly superior and results in an exceptional blasted metal surface. And, we're using 20% less Starblast™ than slag for similar blasting programs."

Here are some of the other Starblast™ Ultra advantages that helped General Railway improve their operation:

- Starblast™ Ultra reduces the number of sharp metal peaks on the blasted surface of the railcar. These peaks can eventually poke through, causing a "bumpy" painted surface, rust and future coating failures.
- Starblast™ Ultra generates much less dust, which improves the blaster's visibility significantly and minimizes rework. And, with a clearer picture of the job in progress, the blaster works faster and cleans more cars per day, thus increasing productivity.
- The rounded, sub-angular grain shape of Starblast™ Ultra means:
  - Less particle breakdown, resulting in lower dusting.
  - Less particle embedment in the blasted surface, which means less blowdown time and even more labor savings.
  - Less potential for "pinpoint" rusting and coating failures.
  - Less wear on your blasting equipment, which significantly reduces maintenance material costs of blasting equipment.
- With a much higher density than slags, Starblast™ Ultra reduces ricochet. This allows the blasters to work closer together, maximizing production flexibility and capabilities.
- Paint consumption is often the most expensive part of most maintenance painting jobs. Due to the consistent profile produced with Starblast™ Ultra, the amount of paint applied after blasting is reduced by as much as 10 to 20%.

But one of the most important reasons General Railway uses Starblast™ Ultra, says Foster, is "because our blasters prefer it!" That's the kind of testimony management likes to hear from its employees and Chemours likes to hear from its customers.

Starblast™ Ultra works in all airblast equipment designed for loose abrasives. Chemours offers a complete line of Starblast™ products to accommodate the specifics of your blast operations—Biasill™, Starblast™, Starblast™ XL, Coarse Staurolite™ and Starblast™ Ultra.

Depend on Starblast™ Ultra for superior performance on your toughest blasting jobs.

For more information, visit www.titanium.chemours.com

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