Abrasive Blasting | General Permit Help Sheet

Maricopa County AIR QUALITY DEPARTMENT

The purpose of this help sheet is to provide information to new and existing facilities with the Authority to Operate (ATO) under the Surface Coating and Abrasive Blasting General Permit. The information provided is not all inclusive of the permit conditions. Please ensure you fully read, understand, and comply with all permit conditions as you are still subject to the entirety of the permit and all applicable rules.

Compliance Tips

Conduct all blasting in a confined enclosure unless the item is in a permanent location and cannot be moved or exceeds eight feet in any dimension.

Clean up any track out, spillage, and/or spent abrasive material at the end of each work day.

Avoid outdoor blasting when the average wind speed exceeds 25 mph.

Do not allow opacity to exceed 20 percent and do not let any visible emissions cross the property line.

Ensure your ATO is posted in a visible location.

Educate all employees on what to expect if an inspector arrives onsite.

Recordkeeping Requirements

- List of blasting equipment
- Dates that blasting occurs
- Normal hours of operation
- A description of the type of blasting (confined, unconfined, wet, etc.)
- Locations of the blasting equipment or specify if the equipment is portable
- The type and amount of blast media used on a monthly basis
- A rolling 12-month total of the amount of blast media used
- Safety data sheets (SDS) or results of any lead testing performed on paint to be removed via unconfined blasting

Revised 10/16/2019

Abrasive Blasting

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Maricopa County AIR QUALITY DEPARTMENT

Confined and Unconfined Blasting

Confined Blasting

Confined blasting must take place in an enclosure consisting of three or four sides and a roof. Direct blasting away from the open side of the enclosure. If the enclosure has a forced air exhaust, either use a certified abrasive or vent the enclosure to an emission control system (ECS).

Unconfined Blasting

Unconfined blasting must be either wet abrasive blasting, vacuum blasting, or dry abrasive blasting where all of the following conditions are met:

- Only use certified abrasive
- Perform blasting only on a metal substrate
- Only blast paint that is free of lead
- Direct away from unpaved surfaces
- Do not use the abrasive more than once unless contaminants are separated through filtration and the abrasive conforms to its original size

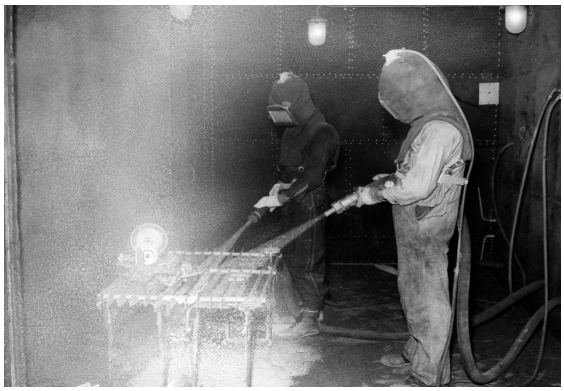
Remember to...

Pay the annual fee.

An annual administrative fee is due every year on the date of ATO issuance. To ensure you receive your annual invoice, please update any changes to your contact information by completing a Contact Information Update Form online:
Maricopa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5581
Paying your annual fee does not renew your ATO.

Renew your ATO prior to the pre-set expiration date.

The Surface Coating and Abrasive Blasting General Permit expires on June 14, 2020 and every five years thereafter, regardless of when your ATO was issued. No renewal fee is required. The renewal application can be found at:
Maricopa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/7035



Helpful Links

Permit Conditions:
Maricopa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/16992

Rule 312:
Maricopa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5248

Recordkeeping Templates:
Maricopa.gov/1814

List of Certified Abrasives:
ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/abrasive-blasting-program/abrasive-blasting-certification-executive-orders

Need Help?

The Business Assistance office is available to conduct courtesy site visits. These visits may be helpful if you have site-specific questions, would like to review your permit conditions, or are preparing for an upcoming inspection.

bit.ly/MCAQD-BusinessAsst

602-506-5102

AQBusinessAssistance@maricopa.gov

Revised 10/16/2019