World-leading Surface Preparation and Finishing Solutions

# **Abrasive Media Selection Guide**







## AIRBLAST EUROSPRAY, AN INTRODUCTION

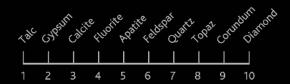
#### Introduction

Choosing the right abrasive media is essential for achieving the desired finish, but with so many grit blasting abrasives to choose from it's not always easy to identify the right blast media for the job.

Airblast offers abrasives in extra fine, fine, medium, and coarse grades. Most abrasives are available in several grades and each abrasive type can be used for multiple purposes. In this guide, we have listed the most common grit types according to their position on the Mohs scale of mineral hardness.

The Mohs scale is based on the ability of a harder material to scratch a softer material. The softest mineral on the scale is talc, which has a value of one. On the opposite end of the scale is diamond, which has a value of 10.

#### Mohs Scale of Hardness



Choosing the wrong abrasive for the job can cause damage to the substrate or result in a heavily pitted surface profile. To help you make the right choice, Airblast has created the following introductory guide to some of the most common abrasives, their strengths and weaknesses, and their typical uses.

This booklet is intended as a guide only and is not definitive or legally binding professional advice. It is recommended that you continue to familiarise yourself with all sources of advice and guidance, including other information relevant to your industry sector. Where appropriate, you should always raise questions with your employer directly and prior to undertaking blasting of any kind if you are unsure of anything. You must also make sure you keep your training up to date and relevant.

©2020 Airblast All rights reserved





## PLASTIC MEDIA TYPE V MOHS SCALE OF HARDNESS 3 - 4

Airblast favours two types of plastic media: Type V and Type II. Both are considered light abrasives at the recommend psi values. Optimal performance is achieved at relatively low pressures around 15–40psi (1–3bar). Plastic media is often the blast media of choice for delicate surfaces that need to retain their clad, anodised, phosphate, and galvanised coatings. Plastic media is a chemically inert abrasive.

#### Type V

Type V plastic media is a versatile solution for coating removal and surface preparation in applications that require very gentle processing to delicate substrates. Type V is the gentler of the two and considered more forgiving.

## Mohs scale of Hardness

- 1 Talc
- 2 Gypsum
- 3 Calcite
- 4 Fluorite
- 5 Apatite
- 6 Feldspar
- 7 Quartz
- 8 Topaz
- 9 Corundum
- 10 Diamond



Reclaimable?	Yes
Reuses	8 – 10
Bulk Density	1.15 – 1.20g/cm³
Mesh Size	12 – 80
Mohs Scale	3 – 4
Initial Cost	£££
Cost Per Use	££
Applications	Paint stripping, de-flashing, cleaning
Max Operating Temperature	200°C
Appearance	Clear grains
Shapes	Angular
Chemical composition	Acrylate Polymer (non-hazardous)
	Methyl Methacrylate Monomer
	Anti-static agent



Mohs scale

of Hardness

2 Gypsum

3 Calcite

4 Fluorite

5 Apatite

6 Feldspar

8 Topaz

Quartz

9 Corundum

10 Diamond

1 Talc

## PLASTIC MEDIA TYPE II MOHS SCALE OF HARDNESS 3 – 4

The two main types of plastic media offered by Airblast are known as Type II and Type V.

Type II plastic media is the more aggressive of the two and is made from urea. It is commonly used in aerospace on metals, plastics, glass, composites, and fibreglass.

Type V plastic media is a versatile solution for coating removal and surface preparation in applications that require very gentle processing to delicate substrates, and is again used in the aerospace industry.

Optimum performance is achieved at relatively low pressures of around 15-40psi (1-3bar).

It is malleable and considered more forgiving for less experienced operators.





Reclaimable?	Yes
Reuses	8 – 10
Bulk Density	1.47 – 1.52 g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Mesh Size	12 – 80
Mohs Scale	3 – 4
Initial Cost	fff
Cost Per Use	££
Applications	Paint stripping, de-flashing, cleaning
Max Operating Temperature	300°C
Appearance	Multi-coloured
Shapes	Angular
Chemical composition	<ul> <li>Polymerized Urea/Melamine</li> <li>Formaldehyde Compound w/Alpha</li> <li>Anti-static agent</li> <li>Pigments and additives</li> </ul>



#### GLASS BEAD MOHS SCALE OF HARDNESS 5.5 - 6

Glass bead is a spherical abrasive created from crushed soda lime glass. It is a mineral, iron-free reusable abrasive suitable for a wide range of applications.

Glass bead has a low abrasive effect and is therefore ideally suited for a gentle cleaning. It should be noted, however, that, as with other abrasives, this is dependent on the grade size used and psi applied.

Glass bead is used for several blasting applications such as; polishing, peening and surface abrasion. It is often favoured for its ability to create a silky matte surface finish.

## Mohs scale of Hardness

1 Talc
2 Gypsum
3 Calcite
4 Fluorite
5 Apatite
6 Feldspar
7 Quartz
8 Topaz
9 Corundum
10 Diamond



Glass Bead	
Reclaimable?	Yes
Reuses	8 – 10
Bulk Density	1.5 – 1.6g/cm³
Mesh Size	10 – 400
Mohs Scale	5.5 – 6
Initial Cost	£££
Cost Per Use	££
Applications	Cleaning and finishing
Specific Gravity	2.5g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Melting Point	730°C
Appearance	Pale white/translucent spherical beads
Chemical composition	<ul> <li>Silicon dioxide (70–75%)</li> <li>Sodium oxide (12–15%)</li> <li>Calcium oxide (7–12%)</li> <li>Magnesium oxide (max 5%),</li> <li>Aluminium oxide (max 2.5%)</li> <li>Potassium oxide (1.5%)</li> <li>Iron (III) oxide (0.5%)</li> </ul>



#### GLASSIA MOHS SCALE OF HARDNESS 5 – 6

Manufactured from 100% recycled glass, glassia grit is a safe alternative to silica sand.

It is often used as an abrasive for cleaning brick, stone, concrete, wood, stainless steel and soft alloys.

As a non-metallic abrasive, glassia grit is suitable for use on stainless steel surfaces.

Finer grades of glassia grit are often used to clean intricate stonework.

Medium grades are often used for cleaning brickwork and stone.

Coarse grades of glassia grit may be used for heavy-duty applications.

## Mohs scale of Hardness

6	Feldspar
5	Apatite
4	Fluorite
3	Calcite
2	Gypsum

8 Topaz9 Corundum10 Diamond



Glassia	
Reclaimable?	Yes
Reuses	2
Bulk Density	1.3g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Mesh Size	10 – 70
Mohs Scale	5 – 6
Initial Cost	£
Cost Per Use	£££
Applications	Blast cleaning brick, stone, concrete, wood, stainless steel and soft alloys.
Specific Gravity	2.6
Max Operating Temperature	730°C
Appearance	Angular particles of amber/blue/green/white
Chemical composition	<ul> <li>Silicon dioxide (71.20%)</li> <li>Sodium oxide (12.20)</li> <li>Oxocalcium (11%)</li> <li>Magnesium oxide (1%)</li> <li>Aluminium oxide (2.03%)</li> <li>Potassium oxide (0.90)</li> <li>Iron (III) oxide (0.37)</li> </ul>



## **GMA GARNET** MOHS SCALE OF HARDNESS 7.5 – 8

Garnet is a dense, tough abrasive that is favoured by the petrochemical industry for its capacity to produce cold sparks, which do not ignite combustible atmospheres.

It is often used for coating removal and the fast cleaning of soft wood, aluminium or fibreglass. Garnet generally works 30%–50% faster than slag grits, due to its higher density.

## Mohs scale of Hardness

1 Talc
2 Gypsum
3 Calcite
4 Fluorite
5 Apatite
6 Feldspar
7 Quartz
8 Topaz
9 Corundum

10 Diamond



<b>GMA Garnet</b>				
Reclaimable?	Yes			
Reuses	3			
Bulk Density	2.3g/cm³			
Mesh Size	30 – 100			
Mohs Scale	7.5 – 8			
Initial Cost	£££			
Cost Per Use	££			
Applications	Maintenance of chemical plants, power stations, and processing equipment. Initial preparation for gas and sewage treatment or desalination.			
Melting Point	1250°C			
Appearance	Sub-angular orange/amber grains.			
Chemical Composition	<ul> <li>Silicon dioxide (37%)</li> <li>Aluminium oxide (21%)</li> <li>Iron (III) oxide (30%)</li> <li>Calcium oxide (1%)</li> <li>Magnesium oxide (6%),</li> <li>Titanium dioxide (2%)</li> <li>Manganese(II) oxide (1%)</li> </ul>			
Mineral Composition	<ul> <li>Garnet (Almandine)</li> <li>Ilmenite</li> <li>Zircon</li> <li>Quartz (free silica &lt;0.1)</li> </ul>			



## **IRON SILICATE** MOHS SCALE OF HARDNESS 7 – 8

Iron Silicate is a slag grit produced as a by-product of industrial forging. Iron silicate tends to be favoured by contractors for being expendable, affordable and versatile.

Iron silicate is utilised for outdoor applications. It is also used for the removal of coatings on logistics vehicles, ships, and steel.

Iron Silicate produces low dust due to its low shatter index. Sharp cutting edges rapidly remove paint, corrosion and mill scale. Iron silicate grades can produce a Sa3 finish on steel.

## Mohs scale of Hardness

- 1 Talc
- 2 Gypsum
- 3 Calcite
- 4 Fluorite
- 5 Apatite
- 6 Feldspar
- 7 Quartz
- **8 Topaz**9 Corundum
- 10 Diamond



Iron Silicate		
Reclaimable?	Yes	
Reuses	1-2	
Bulk Density	1.36 – 1.7g/cm³	
Mesh Size	8 – 80	
Mohs Scale	7 – 8	
Initial Cost	£	
Cost Per Use	££	
Applications	Outdoor blasting	
Melting Point	N/A	
Appearance	Angular, black grains	
Chemical composition	<ul> <li>Silicon dioxide (33-28%)</li> <li>Iron (III) oxide (43-55%)</li> <li>Magnesium oxide (1-2%)</li> <li>Zinc (1-2%)</li> <li>Lead (0.01-0.2%)</li> <li>Aluminium oxide (3-7%)</li> <li>Titanium dioxide (1%)</li> <li>Calcium oxide (1-4%)</li> <li>Copper (0.5-0.9%)</li> <li>Free silica (&lt;0.5)</li> </ul>	



## **HI-CHROME GRIT MOHS SCALE OF HARDNESS 8**

The superior hardness and precise microstructure of AMAGRIT provides maximum durability and impact energy transfer.

Hi-chrome grit is a non-hazardous, contaminant-free and environmentally friendly abrasive.

Compared to other abrasives, using Hi-chrome grit results in far less dust from abrasive fracture and breakdown. This results in a cleaner, safer work environment.

## Mohs scale of Hardness

- 1 Talc
- 2 Gypsum
- 3 Calcite
- 4 Fluorite
- 5 Apatite
- 6 Feldspar
- 7 Quartz
- 8 Topaz
- 9 Corundum
- 10 Diamond



Hi-Chrome Grit	
Reclaimable?	Yes
Reuses	200+
Bulk Density	7.3g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Mesh Size	20 – 70
Rockwell	+57 C*
Initial Cost	£££
Cost Per Use	££
Applications	Blast cleaning, deburring, surface treatment prior to coating, surface finishing, and waterjet blasting.
Melting Point	N/A
Appearance	Angular, sharp grey grains
Chemical composition	<ul> <li>Carbon (2.0%)</li> <li>Silicon (4.0%)</li> <li>Manganese (1.25–1.75%)</li> <li>Chromium (26–30%)</li> </ul>



## **HG STEEL MOHS SCALE OF HARDNESS 8**

HG steel is a high-performance, reclaimable abrasive that is commonly used for heavy-duty industrial surface treatment.

While HG steel media doesn't provide as aggressive a cleaning action as aluminium oxide, it is an extremely resilient abrasive that can be cycled a huge number of times, making for a smart long-term investment.

## Mohs scale of Hardness

1 Talc
2 Gypsum
3 Calcite
4 Fluorite
5 Apatite
6 Feldspar
7 Quartz
8 Topaz
9 Corundum

10 Diamond



HG Steel	
Reclaimable?	Yes
Reuses	200+
Bulk Density	7g/cm³
Mesh Size	10 – 325
Rockwell	60
Initial Cost	£££
Cost Per Use	££
Applications	Removing heavy scale and texturing surfaces.
Melting Point	N/A
Appearance	Angular, sharp grey grains
Chemical composition	<ul> <li>Carbon (0.80–1.2%)</li> <li>Manganese (0.60–1.2%)</li> <li>Silicon (0.40% min)</li> <li>Sulphur (0.05% max)</li> <li>Phosphorus (0.05%)</li> </ul>



## **ALUMINIUM OXIDE** MOHS SCALE OF HARDNESS 9

A fast-acting, non-ferrous abrasive used in cabinets and blast rooms where it can be reclaimed. Used for cleaning stainless steel and aluminium, glass etching, and surface preparation for powder coating.

#### Brown fused alumina

The most economical of the three variants. Brown alumina is a hard, sharp abrasive for heavy industrial surface treatment.

#### White fused alumina

White aluminium oxide is an ultra-pure variant used in high-performance processes that are sensitive to contamination.

#### Pink fused alumina

Provides a more aggressive cutting action than brown and white variants. Its pink hue is due to the presence of chromium in its chemical composition, which increases toughness and durability.

## Mohs scale of Hardness

1 Talc
2 Gypsum
3 Calcite
4 Fluorite
5 Apatite
6 Feldspar
7 Quartz
8 Topaz
9 Corundum

10 Diamond



Aluminium Oxide	
Reclaimable?	Yes
Reuses	6–8
Bulk Density	<b>B</b> : 1.15–2.1g/cm <sup>3</sup>
	W: 0.8–2.1g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Mark C'ar	P: 1.3–2g/cm³
Mesh Size	B: 45–2,800 W: 45–2,800
	P: 355–2,800
Mohs Scale	9
Initial Cost	£££
Cost Per Use	££
Applications	Cleaning, finishing, deburring.
Melting Point	2050°C
Appearance	Angular brown, white, and pink grains – colour dependent on the alumina.
Chemical composition	• (Macro) Aluminium oxide (95.65%)
	• Titanium dioxide (2.42%)
	• Iron (III) oxide (0.12%)
	• Sodium oxide (0.92%),
	• Oxocalcium (0.35%)
	• (Micro) Aluminium oxide (94.20%)
	• Titanium dioxide (2.79%)
	• Iron (III) oxide (0.33%),
	• Sodium oxide (1.34%)
	Oxocalcium (0.33%)

## COST COMPARISON BETWEEN HG STEEL GRIT AND NON-METALLIC ABRASIVES





Sample Blast Parameters	5
Blast Type	Direct pressure blasting
Finish	Rust grade B steel cleaned to SA 21/2
Blast Environment	Closed system with recovery system
Nozzle Type	10mm long Venturi nozzle
Compressed Air Cost Per m <sup>3</sup>	£0.01
Waste Disposal Cost Per kg	£0.05
Labour Cost Per House	£10.00
Total Blast Area	10,000m²

	HG40 Steel	Copper Slag	Garnet
Size	0.2-0.8 microns	0.3-1.5 microns	0.3-0.8 microns
Specific Weight	7.5g/cc	3.6g/cc	4.1g/cc
Bulk Density	3.5g/cc	2g/cc	2.4g/cc
Abrasive Flow Rate	1000kg/hr	571kg/hr	686kg/hr
Cleaning Rate	20m²/hr	12 m²/hr	16 m²/hr
Reuses	1000	1	3
Abrasive Breakdown Rate	1kg/hr	571.43kg/hr	228.57kg/hr
Practical Abrasive Consumption	5kg/hr	571kg/hr	228kg/hr
Abrasive Purchase Price	£600 per tonne	£100 per tonne	£200 per tonne
Practical Abrasive Cost per hour	£3.00	£57.10	£45.60
Practical Abrasive Cost per m <sup>2</sup>	£0.15	£4.758	£2.85
Air Pressure	6 bar	7bar	6bar
Air Flow	330m³/hr	380 m³/hr	330 m³/hr
Compressed Air Cost per m <sup>2</sup>	£0.165	£0.317	£0.206
Waste Disposal Cost per m²	£0.013	£2.379	£0.713
Labour Cost per m <sup>2</sup>	£0.50	£0.833	£0.625
Total Cost per m²	£0.828	£8.28	£4,394.00
Total Cost of Job	£8,275.00	£82,875.00	£43,938.00
Extra Cost Compared to HG Steel	£0.00	£74,600.00	£35,663.00

The above is a cost comparison between HG steel abrasive and two popular, non-metallic abrasives: copper slag and garnet. This example shows that although Copper Slag is a popular abrasive for contractors working outdoors, when working in a blast room with a recovery system, it can be far more cost efficient to invest in an abrasive such as HG steel.

In our example, using copper slag would cost £74,600 more than completing the same job with HG steel, while garnet would cost £35,663 more. This demonstrates that the abrasive used greatly influences the cost of the job, as well as the finish. Be sure to talk to Airblast to ensure you're using the right abrasive for your next project.

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BEST ABRASIVE TO USE FOR YOUR NEXT PROJECT?

CONTACT OUR SALES TEAM FOR ADVICE ON 01778 560650





## **ABRASIVE BULK DENSITIES**

Abrasive	lb/ft³	kg/m³	Mohs
Silica Sand	100	1602	
Mineral Sands	127	2034	
Flint	80	1281	
Garnet	147	2355	
Coal Slag	85	1362	
Copper Slag	112	1794	
Nickel Slag	85	1362	
Sodium Bicarbonate	61	977	
Nut Shell	45	721	5–9
Corn Cobs	39	625	9–9.5
Aluminium Oxide	120	1922	40-65 (HRC)
Silicon Carbide	106	1698	5–6
Steel Shot/Grit	250	4005	3–4
Glass Shot	100	1602	
Plastic Grit	47	753	
Ferric Oxide	172	2755	

## **DEGREES OF CLEANLINESS**

Abrasive	lb/ft³	kg/m³	Mohs
White Metal Blast	SSPC-SP 5	NACE No 1	SA3
Near White Metal Blast	SSOC-SP 10	NACE No 2	SA2 1/2
Commercial Blast	SSPC-SP 6	NACE No 3	SA2
Brush-Off Blast	SSPC-SP 7	NACE No 4	SA1



## SA1

#### BRUSH-OFF BLAST CLEANING

Removal of loose mill scale, loose rust and loose paint, to a degree hereafter specified, by the impact of abrasives propelled through nozzles or by centrifugal wheels. It is not intended that the surface shall be free of all mill scale, rust and paint. The remaining mill scale, rust and paint should be tight and the surface should be sufficiently abraded to provide good adhesion and bonding of paint. A brush-off blast cleaned surface finish is defined as one from which all oil, grease, dirt, rust scale, loose mill scale, loose rust and loose paint or coatings are removed completely but tight mill scale and tightly adhered rust, paint and coatings are permitted to remain provided that all mill scale and rust have been exposed to the abrasive blast pattern sufficiently to expose numerous flecks of the underlying metal fairly uniformly distributed over the entries surface.

	Steel Structures Painting Council (USA)
SA 1	Swedish Standards Organisation
NACE 4	National Organisation of Corrosion







## SA2 COMMERCIAL

Removal of partial mill scale, rust, rust scale, paint or foreign matter by the use of abrasives propelled through nozzles or by centrifugal wheels, to the degree specified. A commercial blast cleaned surface finish is defined as one from which oil, grease, dirt, rust scale and foreign matter have been completely removed from the surface and all rust, mill scale and old paint have been completely removed except for slight shadows, streaks, or discolouration caused by rust stain, mill scale and old paint have been completely removed except for slight shadows, streaks, or discolouration caused by rust stain, mill scale oxides or slight, tight residues of paint or coating that may remain if the surface is pitted, slight residues of rust or paint may be found in the bottom of pits at least two-thirds of each square inch of surface area shall be firee of all visible residues and the remainder shall be limited to the light discolouration, slight staining or tight residues mentioned above.

**BLAST CLEANING** 

SSPC-SP-6	Steel Structures Painting Council (USA)	
SA 2	Swedish Standards Organisation	
NACE 3	National Organisation of Corrosion Engineers (USA)	







#### SA2 1/2

#### NEAR-WHITE BLAST CLEANING

Removal of nearly all mill scale, rust, rust scale, paint, or foreign matter by the use of abrasives propelled through nozzles or by centrifugal wheels, to the degree hereafter specified. A near-white blast cleaned surface finish is defined as one from which all oil, grease, dirt, mill scale, rust, corrosion products, oxides, paint or other foreign matter have been completely removed from the surface except for very light shadows, very slight streaks or slight discolourations caused by rust stain, mill scale oxides, or light, tight residues of paint or coating that may remain. At least 95% of each square inch of surface area shall be free of all visible residues and the remainder shall be limited to the light discolouration mentioned above.

SSPC-SP-10	Steel Structures Painting Council (USA)
SA 2-1/2	Swedish Standards Organisation
NACE 2	National Organisation of Corrosion Engineers (USA)
2nd Quality	United Kingdom Standards (BS 4232)







#### WHITE METAL BLAST CLEANING

SA3

Removal of all mill scale, rust, rust scale, paint or foreign matter by the use of abrasives propelled through nozzles or by the centrifugal wheels. A white metal blast cleaned surface finish is defined as a surface with a grey-white, uniform metallic colour, slightly roughened to form a suitable anchor pattern for coatings. The surface, when viewed without magnification, shall be free of all oil, grease, dirt, visible mill scale, rust, corrosion products, oxides, paint, or any other foreign matter.

SSPC-SP-5	Steel Structures Painting Council (USA)
SA 3	Swedish Standards Organisation
NACE 1	National Organisation of Corrosion Engineers (USA)
1st Quality	United Kingdom Standards (BS 4232)







## ACHIEVING THE BEST FINISH

THE ORIGINATING SURFACE CONDITION OF STEEL IS:

TEEL SURFACE ON WHICH THE MILL SCALE HAS RUSTED AWAY, GENERAL PITTING IS VISIBLE UNDER

STEEL SURFACE LARGELY COVERED WITH ADHERING MILL SCALE BUT LITTLE, IF ANY, RUST.

STEEL SURFACE WHICH HAS BEGUN TO RUST AND FROM WHICH THE MILL SCALE HAS BEGUN TO FLAKE.

- ➤ Steel surface largely covered with adhering mill scale by little, if any, rust.
- ► Steel surface which has begun to rust and from which the mill scale has begun to flake.
- Steel surface on which the mill scale has rusted away or from which it can be scraped, but with slight pitting visible under normal vision.

Steel surface on which the mill scale has rusted away and on which general pitting is visible under normal vision.

SURFACE CLEANLINESS IS DIVIDED INTO FOUR GRADES:

- ► SA 1 Brush off.
- ► SA 2 Commercial.
- ► SA 2-1/2 Near white metal.
- ► SA 3 White Metal.

The finish surface achieved by abrasive blast cleaning depends upon the original surface condition as well as the type of abrasive blasting equipment, size, hardness, type and abrasive shape.

Besides cleanliness of the steel, consideration needs to be given to the etch or profile roughness created by the impact of the abrasive on the steel surface.

THE SUBSTRATE PROFILE IS REGULATED BY:

- ► Shape, type and grading of abrasive.
- ▶ Blasting method and velocity of abrasive impaction.
- Steel condition prior to blasting.

The etched profile of the surface enables adhesion of the protective paint coatings. If the level at which this is achieved is too severe it will cause a waste of paint. If too light, it may cause a lack of adhesion.

The best method of obtaining a profile specification is to ensure the correct blasting equipment and method are combined with the correct abrasive. Once these requirements have been decided upon, the selection of method, equipment and training of personnel should be instigated.

Equipment used for surface preparation must be extremely reliable and simple to use.

Operation information and training should be up-to-date.

Airblast has become the industry standard for manufacturing and supplying surface finishing equipment worldwide through a network of branch-offices as well as distributors.



#### AIRBLAST EUROSPRAY

**GLOSSARY** 

Anchor Pattern Also referred as profile or etch, a result of abrasive

striking a surface during a blast operation

Bar and PSI Bar is a unit of pressure; 1 bar is equal to one

earth atmosphere at sea level. Psi is also a unit of pressure. Psi is sized to measure the pounds of force per square inch. One bar is equal to 14.5028 psi, One psi is equal to 0.7 bar. Pressure regulators on compressors and blast pots operate on these

measurements.

**Bulk Density** The weight in pounds of a cubic foot of any abrasive.

Mesh The physical size of any abrasive. Mesh Size (or U.S.

Sieve Size) is defined as the number of openings in one square inch of a screen. For example, a 36 mesh screen will have 36 openings while a 150 mesh screen will have 150 openings. Since the size of screen (one square inch) is constant, the higher the mesh number the smaller the screen opening and the smaller the particle that will pass through. Generally, US Mesh is measured using screens down to a 325 mesh (325 openings in one square inch). Sometimes the mesh size of a product in noted with either a minus (-) or plus (+) sign. These signs indicate that the particles are either all smaller than (-) or all larger than (+) the mesh size.

Microns Micrometre, also called micron, metric unit of

measure for length equal to 0.001mm. Its symbol is  $\mu$ m. The micrometre is commonly employed to measure the thickness or diameter of microscopic objects, such as colloidal particles. Used by the blasting and painting industry to measure the amount of anchor pattern (profile) produced and wet or dry thickness of protective coating applied.

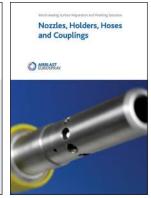
Mohs Scale A measurement of the ability on one mineral to

scratch another. Used by the abrasive industry to indicate the hardness of various abrasives to determine their effect on blast cleaning quality.



## WORLD LEADING SURFACE PREPARATION & FINISHING SOLUTIONS









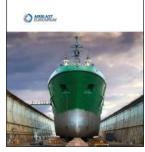






Blast Rooms

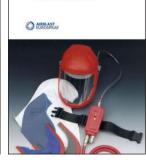




Inspection







**Finishing Equipment** 









#### Airblast Eurospray account

To open an account, simply get in touch with us today

All products sold are subject to our standard Terms and Conditions, which are available on request. E&OE. Price does not include delivery

#### **Products and services**

Coating accessories

Abrasive blast cabinets

Portable blast systems

Blast accessories

Design and build

Lighting systems

Compressors

Pust recovery equipment

Pressure testing

Paint spray booths

Training

Coating systems

Sample processing

Equipment hire

#### Contact us

For further information on how our products and services could benefit your company, please contact us by any of the means below.

Airblast Ltd
Unit 26, King Street Industrial Est
Langtoft, Peterborough
Cambridgeshire PE6 9NF

Tel 01778 560650 Fax 01778 560724 sales@airblast.co.uk www.airblast.co.uk