

Lead Paint Removal from Concrete at Cal Poly

Reusable, low dust Sponge Blasting technology suppresses dust, limits airborne lead levels and reduces waste at Cal Poly State University



School officials searched for a technology that could remove lead paint in the pool house at California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly). Lead-based paint was peeling in the pool house, posing potential health risks to its users.

Cal Poly expected to use abrasive blasting, but harbored concerns for overall project safety, air quality, process leaching, and waste generation. The contractor chose the Sponge Blasting™ System, which responded to the school's concerns, and offered a clear solution:

■ **Dry and Easily Containable** - The Sponge-Jet technology offered a non-leaching, easily containable

solution. Other wet, leaching blast technologies were impractical, or too costly to confine.

■ **Low Airborne Dust** - Lead dust suppression was critical to limiting exposure to system operators as well as surrounding students and faculty.

■ **Safe for Workers and Employees** - The process had to be safe to use with California's stringent EPA air quality regulations.

■ **Process Sensitivity** - The process had to be aggressive enough to offer efficient production rates, without damaging the concrete substrate.

The three-mil lead paint was successfully removed from the pool house's walls and ceiling. Silver Sponge Media™ abrasive was safely recycled seven times, minimizing both waste disposal and total costs.

Cal Poly officials and the painting contractor enjoyed the hassle free project, and the pool was quickly opened.



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 Sponge Blasting™ System