



## Spray Applied Lead Abatement Products: Why Use Multiple Application Steps When *One Step* Will Suffice

When our industry is required to deal with lead paint abatement, there are 2 general approaches that are used to ensure the elimination of hazardous lead paint waste. An easy and cost-effective way is to purchase Blastox blended abrasive and have it delivered to the job site, ready to blast. Here, the contractor would take the pre-blended abrasive and blast clean the surface, similarly to other blast & paint projects. The Blastox approach is called "One Step Lead Abatement" as it does not require additional application steps.

The other general approach to lead abatement requires multiple steps. First, you will need to set up scaffolding and containment. This will allow you to apply the chemical on all areas and help ensure overspray doesn't migrate off the property causing issues. After setting this up, you will need to paint (spray, roller) the chemical on to the lead paint at some yet to be determined thickness between 20 – 40 mils. Then, you'll need to let it dry and hope that you have uniform thickness throughout the painted surface.

Otherwise, you risk having areas that contain no, or less than sufficient amounts of chemistry to render the lead paint waste non-hazardous. Finally, you will need to blast & remove not only the lead-based paint, but also the topical chemical coating of between 20-40 mils that you applied to stabilize the lead. This will result in additional abrasive and labor expenses to remove the additional coating, plus the expense of additional abrasive disposal.

As table 1 on the back illustrates, Blastox is a more cost-effective approach than any of the spray applied products. Blastox chemistry has been tested by EPA, FHWA and US DoD, and has been proven to be long-term stable. That assures peace of mind and reduced liability for stakeholders.

### **Blastox Approach**

- Delivered to job-site preblended
- Chemical % assured by abrasive supplier
- Blast, sample, test & dispose

### **Spray Applied Approach**

- Set up scaffolding & containment
- Apply chemical at determined thickness
  - Chemical amount assured by painter
- Allow chemical to dry
- Blast off topical coating and underlying LBP
- Sample, test & dispose

"For painters, the most important fact to remember is that the cost of applying paint is 4 to 5 times the cost of the paint itself..."

-Albert C. Bean, Tnemec Founder, 1935

## BLASTOX VS. SPRAY APPLIED LEAD ABATEMENT PRODUCT

	Estimated Blastox Costs	Estimated Spray Applied Costs
Blastox: 51 tons at added cost of \$160 ton	8,160	
Spray Apply Product: 243 gallons at \$47 gallon (70 square feet per gallon)		11,421
Spray Apply Product: Application loss (spillage & overspray) of 20% (49 gallons) at \$47 gallon		2,303
Spray Apply Cost to set up		*
Spray Apply Application Costs: 31 hours of labor at \$42 hour (application rate of 550 square feet per hour)		1,302
Spray Apply Additional Blasting to Remove Extra Layer		
Labor (20% add'l): 17 hours at \$42/hour		714
Abrasive (20% add'l): 10 tons @ \$170/ton		1,700
Disposal (20% add'l): 10 Tons @ \$45/ton		450
<b>Total</b>	8,160	17,890

\* Insert own estimate as it varies from project to project

### Variables / Assumptions

- Tank Square Footage = **17,000**
- Abrasive quantity used: **51 tons / 102,000 lbs**
- Blastox blended abrasive application rate = **6 lbs / sq ft**
- Painting Production Rate: **550 sq ft / hr**
  - Hours to paint: **17,000 / 550 = 31 hrs**
- Blasting Production Rate: **200 sq ft / hr**
  - Hours to blast: **17,000 / 200 = 85 hrs**
- Labor Rate: **\$42 / hour**
- Non-Hazardous Waste Disposal Rate: **\$45 / ton**
- Blastox Blended Abrasive Cost: **Get for each location**
  - Straight Abrasive Cost: **Get for each location**
  - Blastox add-on Cost: **\$160**