

OSHA New Beryllium Ruling



Key Facts



62,000
American Workers are Exposed On The Job

11,500
Exposed During Abrasive Blasting

New Beryllium Limits



0.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
Maximum Averaged Over 8 Hours

Key Benefits



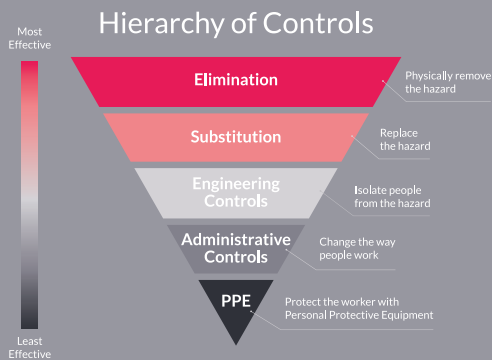
\$2.5 M
Annual Cost Saving in Employees' Health (Shipyard and Construction Sectors)

Understanding & Preparing your Workplace for Abrasive Blasting Operations



Step 1: Hazard Anticipation and Identification

Abrasive blasting creates dust and to address these hazards, we need to follow OSHA's Hierarchy of Controls.



1. Identify products with low friability (tendency to shatter).
2. Examine levels of heavy metal in abrasives.
3. Work with vendors and manufacturers to identify safer products.
4. Substitute highly hazardous blasting media with safer alternatives.



Step 2: Hazard Mitigation

Employers can mitigate hazards with engineering and administrative controls, and PPE.

Engineering Controls

- Build local exhaust ventilation
- Machine guards to shield workers
- Isolate your blasting process

Administrative Controls

- Safe work areas and restriction access signages
- Blasting procedures
- Blast when the site is less busy
- Hygiene practices employees training

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Eye and face protection
- Gloves
- Aprons or blast suits
- Safety shoes or boots



Step 3: Disposal Considerations

After blasting, safety doesn't end. Operators must dispose of or recycle used abrasives properly. Garnet is a superior abrasive blasting media for recycling. It's environmentally inert, making disposal worry-free and less costly.

Beryllium Ruling Timeline

