



Richard Taylor, Senior Director Fabrication Operations at McDermott (left), receives the Platinum Member Award from GMA CEO Grant Cox (right).



GMA Middle East Honors McDermott as First Platinum Member

GMA Middle East has recognized McDermott International, Ltd as the first Platinum Member of its Used Garnet Return Rewards Program. This milestone celebrates over a decade of collaboration focused on sustainability and responsible waste management in the region.

The award was presented by GMA CEO Grant Cox to Richard Taylor, Senior Director of Fabrication Operations at McDermott. Reflecting on the achievement, Grant said, "McDermott's leadership in garnet recycling sets a benchmark for environmental stewardship in the industry. Their return of used garnet over the past decade has contributed significantly to reducing landfill waste, and we are proud

to recognize their role in advancing sustainability in the region. We look forward to continuing our partnership and exploring new ways to innovate together."

Since the partnership began, GMA and McDermott have successfully diverted more than 32,000 tons of used garnet from UAE landfills, minimizing environmental impact and promoting circular economy principles.

"This recognition underscores McDermott's commitment to achieving our sustainability targets and creating long-term value for our stakeholders while integrating circularity into our operations," said Sadaf Hameed, McDermott's

Manager of Sustainability. "Recycling garnet is a powerful example of how we can extend the life of materials, reduce waste, and lessen our environmental impact. We view initiatives like this as essential in transitioning to more sustainable engineering, procurement, construction, and installation practices."

This achievement highlights the importance of partnerships in driving sustainability. GMA Middle East and McDermott continue to lead the way in garnet recycling and reprocessing, setting an example for the industry and contributing to a more sustainable future.

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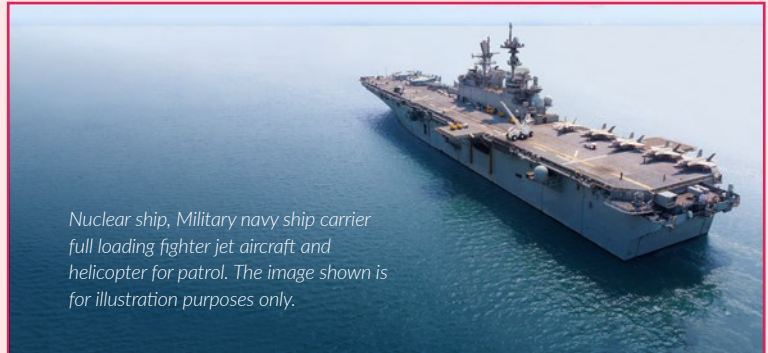
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GMA Garnet Expands Product Line across Asia

GMA Garnet Group is expanding its product offerings in the Asia Pacific region with the launch of ToughBlast™ and ExtremeBlast™ abrasives, designed for heavy-duty and extreme industrial applications.

ToughBlast™ offers enhanced durability for industries like shipbuilding and steel production, while ExtremeBlast™ is engineered for maximum performance in the most demanding conditions.

Chris Manger, GMA's Sales Manager for Asia Pacific, emphasised the significance of this new product launch, stating, "This release reflects GMA's commitment to innovation and empowering our customers with versatile solutions that elevate their project outcomes, particularly in the area of tough coating removal."



Nuclear ship, Military navy ship carrier full loading fighter jet aircraft and helicopter for patrol. The image shown is for illustration purposes only.

PROJECT: Supporting Military Standards

GMA Garnet Group's ToughBlast™ abrasive is now approved under MIL-A-22262B(SH), meeting the rigorous standards required for military applications. This certification highlights its capability to perform in demanding environments, including aircraft carrier maintenance and refurbishment.

Engineered for heavy-duty performance, ToughBlast™ is a reliable solution for tough coating removal, helping to ensure the operational readiness of naval vessels. Its approval reflects GMA's focus on providing high-quality abrasives tailored to specialized industry needs.

Montana Mine Upgrades: Securing the Future of Garnet Supply

GMA Garnet Group has completed key upgrades at the Ruby Valley Mine in Montana to ensure a sustainable and reliable supply of high-quality garnet. The improvements include expanded processing capacity, increased storage, and enhanced water management systems to support greater operational efficiency and environmental sustainability.

Rod Liebeck, President of GMA Americas, highlighted the commitment of the GMA team throughout the long-term project, stating, "The success of these upgrades is a direct reflection of the dedication and hard work of our team. This investment in the Montana mine strengthens our ability to deliver consistent, high-quality garnet to our customers globally, ensuring that we meet the growing needs of industries that rely on us."

The Ruby Valley Mine remains a critical part of GMA's supply network, providing consistent, premium garnet for North America and international markets. These upgrades reinforce GMA's commitment to long-term resource sustainability and delivering reliable products to customers worldwide.



Onsite at GMA's Montana mine operations.



JetTalk

A technical series on waterjet cutting tips and solutions to help you maximize production and safeguard your equipment.



Unlock the Key Differences Between Waterjet and Laser Cutting

In the latest edition of JetTalk, we break down the key differences between waterjet and laser cutting in our comprehensive e-book, *Waterjet vs Laser Cutting: A Comparative Analysis*. This resource is essential for professionals considering the best method for their next cutting project.

Over the past few decades, waterjet and laser cutting have emerged as leading technologies in the metal-cutting industry. While they share similarities, each method is suited to distinct applications based on budget, scale, and material requirements. Understanding their differences is key to making an informed decision tailored to your project's needs. The e-book explores every aspect of these technologies, including:

- **Cutting Processes:** Insights into how each method works and the inputs required for optimal performance.
- **Key Comparisons:** Cutting speed, quality, and suitability for various materials.
- **Cost and Maintenance:** A breakdown of short- and long-term operational expenses.
- **Environmental Impact:** How these technologies align with sustainability goals.
- **Emerging Trends:** Predictions for the future of cutting technology.

Real-World Success Stories

For industries requiring superior precision and material versatility, waterjet cutting has proven to be a game-changer. Real-world examples demonstrate its advantages:

- Al Qimma Equipment Company switched from laser to waterjet cutting with GMA Garnet™, resolving issues like material burns and distortion, leading to higher-quality outputs.
- Jacquet Nova Srl, a distributor of stainless steel, improved cutting performance by eliminating heat-affected zones and deformation through the adoption of waterjet cutting with GMA Garnet™.

Download *Waterjet vs Laser Cutting: A Comparative Analysis* today and discover how GMA Garnet Group is advancing cutting technology to meet the needs of diverse industries.

DOWNLOAD



BlastTalk

A technical series on abrasive blasting tips and solutions to help you maximize productivity and minimize risks.



Pete Mitchell, VP of New Market Development and Technical Management, presenting at AMPP event, Saudi Arabia.

Meeting Industry Demands: Key Trends in Abrasive Blasting

The abrasive blasting industry is undergoing significant evolution, driven by global shifts in priorities related to quality, safety, and environmental responsibility.

Speaking at this year's AMPP conference in the Middle East, GMA's VP of New Market Development and Technical Management Pete Mitchell shared key insights on these trends, highlighting the ways in which these priorities are reshaping how companies operate in abrasive blasting.

One focus area for companies is the prevention of coating failures. "Inadequate surface preparation often leads to costly repairs and reduced coating durability, making optimal surface cleanliness and peak density essential for effective adhesion," Pete said.

"We're also noticing increased awareness from coatings manufacturers about the critical role of surface preparation in preventing coating failures. This is evident in the growing number of technical papers and research on the subject in recent years, underlining the industry's focus on durability and performance."

Blasters across the industry are recognizing the importance of using abrasives that deliver consistent, high-quality results to prevent these failures. GMA's engineered garnet blends, specifically designed for reliable surface preparation, help to extend the life of protective coatings, and reduce the need for rework—factors that ultimately contribute to long-term project success.

Sustainability is increasingly at the forefront as environmental regulations grow stricter around the disposal and responsible storage of spent abrasive media. The industry's focus has turned toward sustainable waste management, seeking solutions that not only comply with regulations but also reduce environmental impact. GMA is supporting these sustainability goals by improving its recycling capabilities, allowing for the repurposing of spent garnet and helping blasters reduce the environmental footprint of their operations. Through such initiatives, GMA is contributing to a more sustainable approach in abrasive blasting.

The prioritization of worker health and wellbeing is at high level of precedence across the blasting industry, especially with heightened awareness around heavy metals found in some traditional abrasives. Trace metals can pose serious health risks, leading companies to shift toward safer, naturally inert alternatives. "GMA's commitment to safety aligns with industry-wide efforts to create healthier, hazard-free environments for blasters," emphasized Pete.

GMA Garnet™ products are free from heavy metals, providing a safer option that helps safeguard operators on blasting sites.

Advances in blasting technology and automation are simultaneously driving demand for high-performance abrasives. "As the industry adopts new tools and methods, materials that provide superior cutting power and consistent performance are essential to maintaining productivity. High-quality garnet abrasives from GMA enhance blasting efficiency, helping companies achieve clean, uniform surfaces with fewer passes and less material waste," said Pete.



To keep pace with this rising demand, GMA has expanded production capacity, investing A\$300m over the next five years in its mines and processing plants, reinforcing the company's role as a reliable supplier for the growing needs of blasters worldwide.

Across these evolving trends, cost control remains a central consideration for the industry. Companies increasingly recognize that durable, high-performance abrasives can help reduce rework, extend coating life, and minimize project costs. By offering long-lasting garnet products that meet the demands of modern abrasive blasting, GMA provides solutions that align with these objectives, helping companies achieve both economic and operational efficiency.

As Pete observed, "The trends we're seeing globally in abrasive blasting underscore the importance of using high-quality, sustainable materials. GMA's garnet products align with the industry's commitment to safety, environmental responsibility, and efficiency, addressing the key needs of today's market."

For blasters across the industry, these trends signal a shift toward higher standards, with quality, safety, and sustainability as guiding principles. GMA remains positioned at the forefront, offering solutions that meet the rigorous demands of modern abrasive blasting, and supporting the industry's ongoing evolution.

Abrasives Beyond Ordinary

In industries where precision, durability, and efficiency are paramount, the choice of abrasive plays a critical role. Recognizing the challenges many industries face with traditional slag abrasives, GMA Garnet Group has launched a new microsite, **Abrasives Beyond Ordinary**, to provide in-depth insights and resources for transitioning from slag to premium garnet abrasives.

Why Move Beyond Slag?

Slag abrasives have long been a staple in blasting operations, but their limitations—such as high consumption rates, inconsistent particle sizes, and concerns over health and safety—have pushed industries to explore better alternatives. Garnet abrasives offer a compelling solution, delivering cleaner surfaces, reduced dust, and improved worker safety, all while minimizing environmental impact.

Tailored Solutions for Every Role

The Abrasives Beyond Ordinary microsite is designed with your specific needs in mind. Whether you are an Operations Manager, contractor, corrosion engineer, project manager, or HSE professional, the content is tailored to address the unique challenges and requirements of your role. From selecting the right abrasive for on-site blasting projects to ensuring compliance with environmental and safety standards, the microsite offers solutions that empower informed decision-making across the board.

What the Microsite Offers

The Abrasives Beyond Ordinary microsite serves as a one-stop resource for understanding the benefits of garnet over slag and the practical steps for making the switch. Key features include:

- **Performance Comparisons:** Detailed charts and studies comparing garnet abrasives to slag, showcasing advantages in productivity, efficiency, and surface quality.
- **Case Studies:** Real-world examples of industries that have successfully transitioned to garnet, highlighting cost savings, reduced consumption, and better environmental compliance.
- **Technical Resources:** Guides on optimizing blasting operations with garnet, including advice on selecting the right grade for specific applications.

Scan QR to explore
the microsite



EVENTS



The lucky winner of the GMA Garnet™ giveaway alongside Chris Manger, APAC Sales Manager at The Australasian Corrosion Association conference in Cairns, Australia

Australasian Corrosion Association 2024 Corrosion and Prevention Conference

The GMA Garnet Group Asia Pacific team recently participated in the 2024 Corrosion and Prevention Conference in Cairns, Australia. The event provided an opportunity to reconnect with industry professionals and showcase GMA ToughBlast™ and GMA ExtremeBlast™ during the exhibition and applicator day.

At the GMA Garnet Learning Centre, Chris Manger led two key sessions: *Calculating the True Cost of an Abrasive*, which explored the total cost, factoring in performance, productivity, labor, and disposal, with a demo of GMA's online tool; and *What Makes a Good Abrasive*, where he discussed how abrasive properties affect blasting performance, safety, and sustainability.

"We had a busy week in Cairns, and it was great to hear valuable feedback from clients and industry partners. Congratulations to ACA on a fantastic event," said Chris Manger, Sales Manager - GMA Asia Pacific.

EVENTS

Saudi Maritime & Logistics Congress 2024

GMA Middle East participated in the Saudi Maritime & Logistics Congress 2024, showcasing GMA ToughBlast™, our advanced abrasive solution designed for the most demanding coating removal jobs.

The event provided an excellent platform to introduce ToughBlast™ to the Saudi market. "Thank you to everyone who visited our booth and engaged with us at the event. We are thrilled to introduce GMA ToughBlast™ to the Saudi market as we continue to lead the way in innovative solutions that enhance efficiency while minimizing environmental impact," said Soni John, General Manager, GMA Middle East.



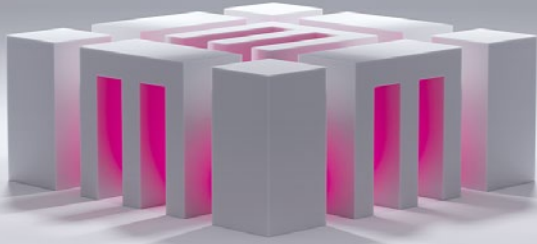
GMA Middle East team at the Saudi Maritime & Logistics Congress 2024

Joining the event was Cameron Sargeant, Group People & Sustainability Manager, highlighting GMA's commitment to sustainability. Through eco-conscious product development and industry collaboration, GMA continues to integrate sustainable practices into every aspect of its operations.

The congress was a great opportunity to connect with industry leaders and reaffirm GMA's dedication to delivering high-performance solutions that meet the region's industrial needs.

EVENTS

MARMOMAC STONE TAKES THE STAGE



GMA Europe at Marmomac 2024

Marmomac 2024

GMA Garnet Group proudly participated in Marmomac 2024, the premier international trade fair for the stone industry, held in Verona, Italy. Renowned as a global hub for stone material innovation and technology, the event offered GMA an excellent platform to engage with industry leaders and highlight the versatility and quality of our garnet abrasives.

This year, GMA's booth featured our cutting-edge garnet solutions, including products tailored for waterjet cutting and sandblasting applications. Attendees learned how GMA's abrasives enhance efficiency, reduce waste, and meet the diverse needs of the stone industry.

Marmomac 2024 also served as a valuable opportunity to connect with clients and discuss GMA's commitment to sustainability and product innovation. With growing interest in eco-friendly practices, GMA reaffirmed its dedication to providing sustainable abrasive solutions that deliver exceptional results.

EVENTS



GMA at the conference

International WorkBoat Show 2024

The GMA Americas team recently attended the International WorkBoat Show 2024, where they connected with industry professionals and showcased GMA's innovative garnet solutions for marine surface preparation. The feedback from attendees was extremely positive, with many emphasizing the importance of effective surface preparation in extending the life of ships and vessels, especially when operating in harsh marine environments.

GMA's abrasives were recognized for their ability to deliver a cleaner surface profile with fewer contaminants and a smoother finish, leading to better coating adhesion, longer asset life, and fewer touch-ups down the line. These key benefits are crucial for ensuring the durability and performance of vessels over time.

OUR CUSTOMERS

Celebrating 10 years with CUTCUT

In the world of precision and innovation, a trusted partnership can make all the difference. For the past decade, Austria's CutCut has relied on GMA ClassicCut™ to power its waterjet cutting operations, achieving unparalleled precision and efficiency in its work.

As we celebrate 10 years of success with CutCut, this milestone is more than just a marker of time—it's a testament to a shared commitment to excellence and continuous innovation.

The company's Managing Director and Owner Mr Florian Baumann shares his thoughts on his business and GMA over the past decade.

Scan QR to view
testimonial video



Expanding the Boundaries of Garnet Applications

Innovation has been at the core of GMA for over four decades, with the company leading advancements in garnet technology for abrasive blasting and waterjet cutting. As a trusted provider of high-performance garnet products worldwide, GMA remains committed to expanding the boundaries of garnet's potential by exploring new applications and partnerships across a variety of industries.

Alex Bozward, GMA's New Markets and Innovations Manager, and the global team are continually exploring innovative applications for garnet beyond its traditional roles. By focusing on garnet-based solutions that enhance durability and extend product lifespan, GMA positions garnet as an invaluable material for applications where reliability is paramount.

"We are working to unlock garnet's potential in applications beyond its traditional scope," Alex explained.

"By enhancing its performance, we aim to deliver materials that increase the durability and reliability of our customers' products."

A significant step in GMA's journey of innovation is its recent partnership with RMIT University in Melbourne. Through collaboration with RMIT's



Alex Bozward, GMA's New Markets and Innovations Manager with Flynn Cowan, GMA's General Manager of International Sales and Marketing.

experts, GMA is delving into advanced applications for garnet, specifically targeting improvements in industrial settings. This partnership allows GMA to focus on optimizing garnet's performance and exploring how it can meet evolving demands across various sectors.

GMA has also forged a strategic partnership with another leading industry body, further broadening its research and development capabilities.

"The research explores applications of garnet in a specialized field with global relevance," Alex highlighted.

"We've selected our research partner for their innovative work and practical solutions that serve both government and industry, with their expertise aligning with our vision for innovative, high-performance applications worldwide."

This new collaboration supports GMA's mission to set new standards for garnet technology, emphasizing durability and productivity across a growing range of applications.

Flynn Cowan, GMA's General Manager of International Sales and Marketing, responsible for customer-led innovation and new applications, emphasized the importance of these initiatives.

"We are focused on identifying areas where garnet's unique characteristics can provide lasting value across a broad range of industries and applications," he said.

"Our partnerships with institutions like RMIT and other industry leaders allow us to leverage garnet's inherent strengths in ways that meet a wide range of customer needs."

Through these strategic alliances and the continuous pursuit of innovation, GMA is committed to redefine garnet's role in both traditional and emerging markets. By tailoring solutions to meet specific industry demands, GMA continues to reinforce its reputation as a trusted and forward-thinking partner in garnet-based applications.



engineered
to perform

GMA Garnet Group

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GMA Garnet Group (GMA) is the trusted global leader in industrial garnet and has been providing the highest quality garnet abrasive to the waterjet cutting and protective coating industries for over 40 years.

DISTRIBUTOR