



INTERNATIONAL MARKETING, INC. TECHNICAL BULLETIN

SUBJECT: 2020 Shot Blast Module Life Cycle / Expected Performance Life

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There are two major factors that determine the productive life of a self-destructive machine such as steel media blasting equipment: the amount of operating time and the preventive maintenance performed.

1. **The amount of operating time:** This will always affect the machinery, because during the time that coatings and corrosion are being removed from the truck wheel, steel also is being removed from the blaster. Critical to this production operating time/wear relationship is (a) *the type of shot blast media* being run in the machine, and (b) *the proper, timely additions of this shot blast media* to the operation. Many shop situations have made alternative choices in the type of media (manufacturer, size and hardness) to "clean the wheels faster" and these alternative media choices have led to premature failure of the machinery components and perceived problems with "expected" performance. NOW, even with the proper media, if not added in systematic timely intervals, we end up with the same scenario – premature wear on the machine and erratic machine performance due to flooding or starving the blast wheels.

Those who use the proper media and become diligent in the addition of this media have a better attitude towards this "expected performance" issue because their machines last longer and run better.

2. **The maintenance (which includes proper operation, mechanical adjustment and wear parts replacement . . . among other things):** Timely maintenance, performed by responsible personnel, on a machine designed with the features of "replace-ability" (of most of its wearable parts) and "weld-ability" (of its hull or outer shell) will have a definite positive impact on the performance life of the machine. Keeping an eye on the wear on parts and replacing them in a timely fashion and correctly repairing "small holes" is key to this maintenance. Repairs only become major repairs if they are ignored them when they were minor repairs.

Most all of the disappointments in "expected performance" have been a result of *"failure to perform timely maintenance"*. Information for operation and maintenance training is always a plus and should be readily available since operator turnover is high in this area of the business. Entry level personnel should be chosen with consideration of their ability to be taught to run and to maintain equipment diligently and conscientiously.

The IMI 2020 Shot Blast Module has the potential of an extended performance life due to the features such as replace-ability of parts, weld-ability of its outer shell, and ease of maintenance. Combined with trained conscientious personnel who follow proper operations and maintenance procedures, the 2020 Shot Blast Module can be a valuable tool in the Wheel/Rim Refinishing Industry for years to come.

Questions regarding the above technical bulletin may be directed to:

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