

COGENT POWER RECYCLES SHOT AND SAVES A FORTUNE WITH A BAGVAC™™



Hiring a BagVac™ industrial vacuum cleaner has enabled Cogent Power to recycle shot and reduce the amount of new shot purchased to around 25% of the annual bill.

Cogent Power, based in Newport and part of Tata Steel, is a global supplier of electrical steels, transformer cores and components. The manufacturing and production process involves a large amount of shotblasting that requires three hoppers to catch the used shot.

DIRECT AND RELATED COSTS OF SHOTBLASTING

Shot is expensive, and until Cogent Power learnt about the BagVac™'s waste removal and recycling capabilities, it was purchasing 10 tonnes of new shot every month.

Used as part of the 24 hour steel parts fabrication process from Monday to Friday, Cogent Power's operatives would also have to remove the spent shot manually, sweeping and shovelling it into wheel barrows whenever they had time, and then tipping it into skips to be transported to nearby landfill sites. So besides the cost of the shot, there was the labour cost of time consuming waste removal, and the further costs of transportation to and using an expensive licensed landfill.



SAVING MONEY THE BAGVAC™ WAY

Mark Spencer, a member of Cogent Power's Operations Support team, heard about the BagVac™ via their waste management supplier Veolia, and decided to try one out: *"The BagVac™ transformed the way we dealt with spent shot. For the first time we could suck up the good shot that leaks constantly from the three hoppers, and instead of throwing it away and having to re-order more shot, we have been able to recycle it back into the shot blasting process."*

"Doing that has saved us a fortune. On the face of it, it may not sound much, but instead of having to order around 10 tonnes of shot every month, we now only need to re-order around 10 tonnes every 3-4 months. That's reduced what was a major production cost to around 25% of the original annual bill."

Using the BagVac™ means Cogent Power has also reduced the related waste removal costs – labour, transportation and landfill – by similar percentages, and not filling up expensive landfill sites with waste shot is also better for the environment, points that Spencer particularly appreciates: *"Being faster at waste removal, the BagVac™'s much more cost-efficient needing just one man to remove the spent shot and recycle it back into the shotblasting process, than for two or three men to be sweeping and shovelling spent shot into skips. Being a more environmentally-friendly company and making less of an impact on the environment is a big plus too."*

H&S AND USER BENEFITS OF THE BAGVAC™'S FULLY ENCLOSED SYSTEM

The BagVac™'s fully enclosed system from nozzle to bag is a major H&S benefit, as Spencer's also realised: "We also found using the BagVac™ meant virtually no dust. Sweeping and shovelling up shot meant a lot of dust was created and that's a potential H&S hazard, so the BagVac™ was a safer means of removing the shot as well."

"On top of that, what was an unpopular and unpleasant job has become one that is easier, faster and far less of a back breaking chore for the operatives. They much prefer using the BagVac™!"

"For Cogent Power, the BagVac™'s been a great solution. It's saved us a lot of money, cleans up much more efficiently and much more safely, and improved the way we do things."

