

# BLASTOX®

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

TB-007 Issued 10-98

## DETERMINING PROPER BLASTOX® BLEND RATIOS

A majority of projects that utilize dry blasting with Blastox® for lead abatement on steel use a blend ratio of 15 percent by weight. This is satisfactory for an application rate of 6 lbs or greater of blended abrasive per square foot of surface abraded. When the application rate is reduced below 6 lbs, it is necessary to increase the amount of Blastox® so that there is a sufficient amount of chemistry to adequately stabilize each square foot of lead paint. The scenarios where an increased rate is required are when: an application rate on steel is less than 6 lbs per square foot; a brick, concrete or masonry substrate is blasted; a wood substrate is blasted; or, a Torbo slurry (wet) blast system is utilized. The following information specifies the ratio of Blastox® to be used in each instance.

As mentioned, the ratio of Blastox® used for dry abrasive blasting on steel substrates is most often 15 percent. This is based on the expectation that a minimum application rate of 6 lbs or greater of abrasive per square foot of surface prepared is used. This minimum application rate covers most surface preparation requirements, but when less than 6 lbs is used, as the case is for a brush or sweep blast, a 20 percent blend of Blastox® is necessary.

When blasting brick, concrete or masonry work with dry abrasive blasting, a 20 percent ratio of Blastox® is required. This type of substrate requires far less abrasive when dry blasting and necessitates an increased blend to 20 percent.

Wood blasting requires the use of 30 percent regardless of whether a dry abrasive blast system or a Torbo blast system is used. This type of soft substrate can require an extremely low application rate for surface preparation and thus requires the increase of Blastox® to 30 percent.

For projects that use the Torbo wet (slurry) blast system on steel surfaces, a 20 percent ratio of Blastox® is required. Concrete, brick, and masonry projects with Torbo require the use of a 30 percent Blastox® blend. Similarly, an increased blend rate to 30 percent is required for all wood work with the Torbo system.

Please contact Technical Services at TDJ Group should you have any questions about what ratio of Blastox® you should use on your next lead abatement project.



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## Quick Reference Chart of Required Blastox<sup>®</sup> Ratios

| Substrate/Application    | 6 lbs or more | 3-6 lbs (dry) | 3 lbs or less (dry) | Torbo            |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Steel                    | 15%           | 20%           | NA                  | 20% (3-4 lbs.)   |
| Brick, Concrete, Masonry | NA            | 20%           | 30%                 | 30% (1.5-2 lbs.) |
| Wood                     | NA            | 30%           | 30%                 | 30% (1-1.5 lbs.) |

If the total amount of lead expressed as mg/kg (ppm) or as a percent in a coating system exceeds 400,000 mg/kg (ppm) or 40 percent, please contact Technical Services for a recommendation.



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