

## **Natrium® Products Baking Soda Blast Media Highlights**

Baking soda as a blast media is friable, meaning it cleaves or breaks on impact with the substrate. This is the reason it makes a good abrasive choice for sensitive substrates. Chemically, Natrium® is the same as any baking soda, including the powders. The 260 is a larger particle than any other manufacturer offers, although we do not want to necessarily highlight that point; we prefer to refer to it as simply more productive.

The particle allows for better flow characteristics, and because of that we do not have to add an additional chemical flow agent into the mix to keep the product moving freely. Most of our competitors that are making a grade of soda for blasting purposes add a flow agent. Some go so far as to claim that it is a necessity, or a benefit, although we have never found much to support this as our product is used successfully in some of the most humid environments in the U.S. Most people who are serious about blasting for productivity use some form of air dryer on the compressed air supply, and that provides a reasonable environment for the product. The lack of flow agent can also potentially improve clean up as the water solubility would be uniform (flow agents tend to be less, or not soluble).

Our media also offers reduced dust generation, partially due to the crystal (and again size), but also due to the lack of a flow agent. This benefit can increase productivity (if working in a confined area with insufficient dust collection), due to improved visibility.

Regarding productivity, we have found through some timed experiments on paint removal from a metal substrate that our product offered several minutes/hour quicker coating removal. By this example, using our product versus another brand could offer a very noticeable decrease in operating expenses by reducing diesel and media consumption as well as cutting labor output (to get the same amount of work completed). For a busy blast day, that number could approach a \$100 savings fairly easily.