The finish surface achieved by abrasive blast cleaning depends upon the original surface condition as well as the type of abrasive blasting equipment, size, hardness, type and abrasive shape. Beside cleanliness of the steel, considerations need to be given to the etch or profile roughness created by the impact of the abrasives on the steel surface. The substrate profile is regulated by:

- Shape, type and grading of abrasive
- Blasting method and velocity of abrasive impaction
- Steel condition prior to blasting

The etched profile of the surface enhances adhesion of the protective paint coating. If the level at which this is achieved is too severe it will cause a waste of paint. If too light, it may cause a lack of adhesion.

The best method of obtaining a profile specification is to ensure the correct blasting equipment and method are combined with the correct abrasive. Once the parameters have been decided upon, the selection of method, equipment and training of personnel should be instigated.

Equipment used for surface preparation must be extremely reliable and simple to use. Operating information and training should be up-to-date.

Airblast has become the industry standard for manufacturing and supplying surface finishing equipment worldwide through a network of branch offices as well as distributors.

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