

Technical Bulletin 89

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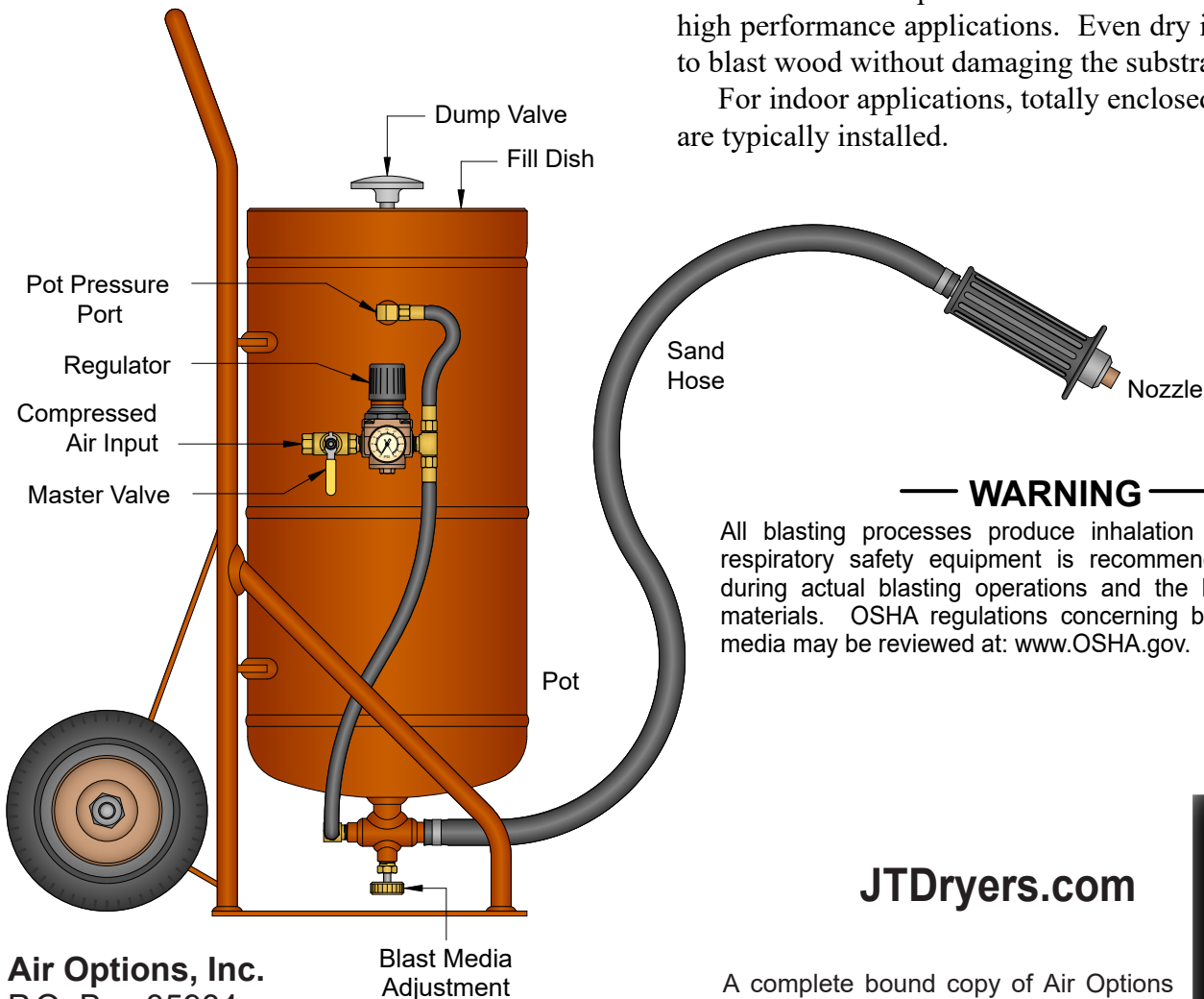
Sandblasting

by Brian S. Elliott

A common application of compressed air is sand blasting. Sand blasters are generally used for surface preparation prior to painting. These machines use compressed air to drive high speed sand particles on to the surface of the components being prepared. The impacting particles are extremely abrasive and will remove nearly any coating that one could encounter. The illustration below shows a portable sand blasting set, used for outdoor applications. A charge of sand is poured into the pot and the compressed air is turned on. The compressed air is directed through the sand hose and out the nozzle. The blast media adjustment controls the amount of sand that is introduced into the hose and nozzle. In addition to sand, there are a number of other types of blast media that can be used. Flint media is used for highly resistant coatings, such as, but not limited to, steel scale and chrome plating. Crushed walnut shells are commonly used on components with a soft substrate, such as the fiberglass

bodies of sports cars and boats. Steel beads are used to surface harden components that are intended to be used in high performance applications. Even dry ice can be used to blast wood without damaging the substrate.

For indoor applications, totally enclosed blast cabinets are typically installed.



— WARNING —

All blasting processes produce inhalation hazards. Proper respiratory safety equipment is recommended at all times during actual blasting operations and the handling of blast materials. OSHA regulations concerning blasting and blast media may be reviewed at: www.OSHA.gov.

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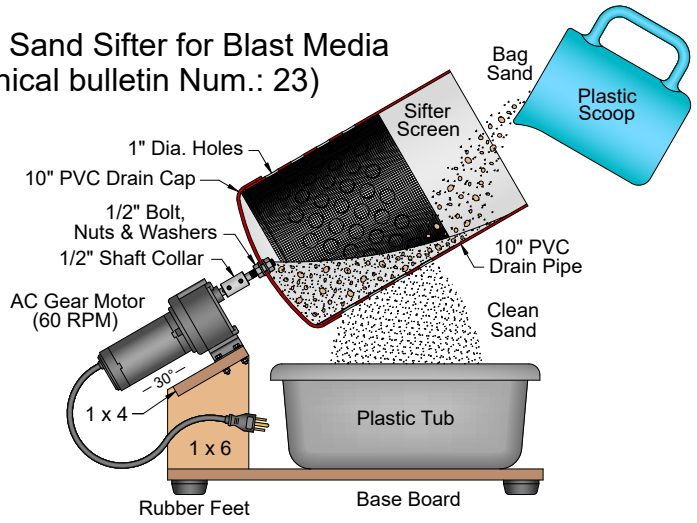
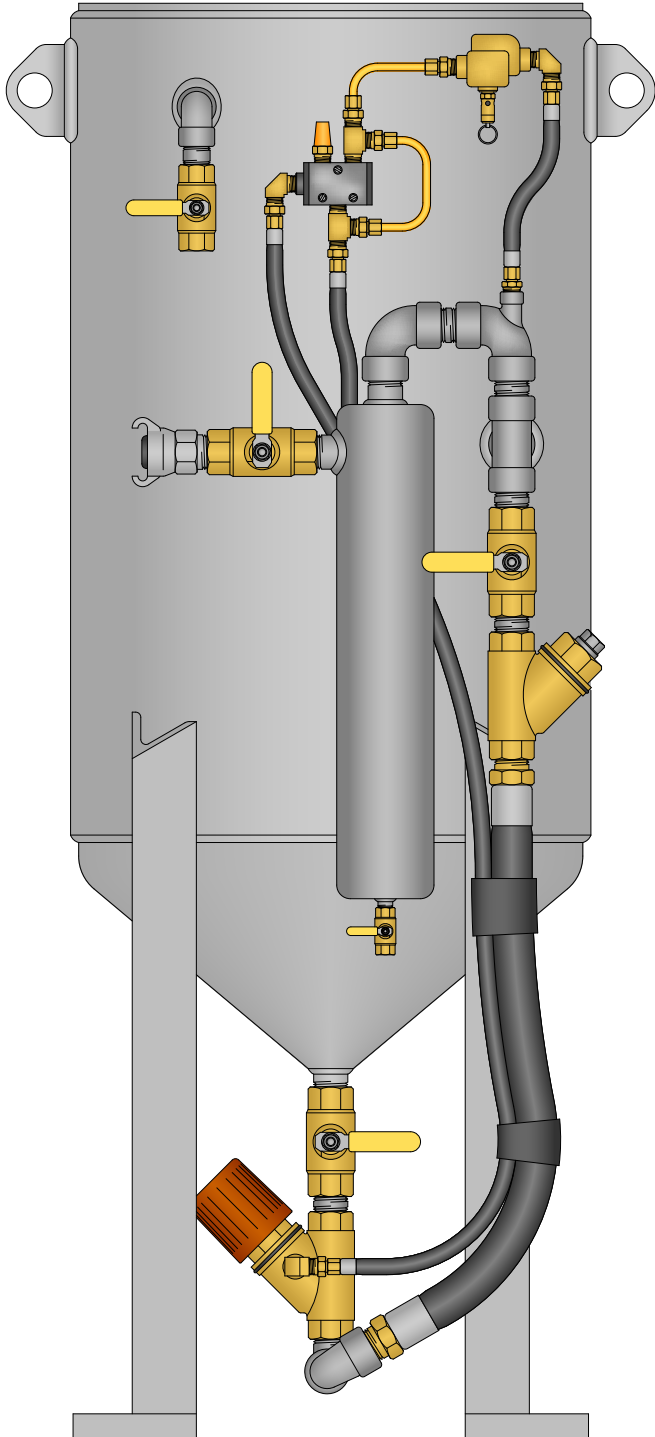
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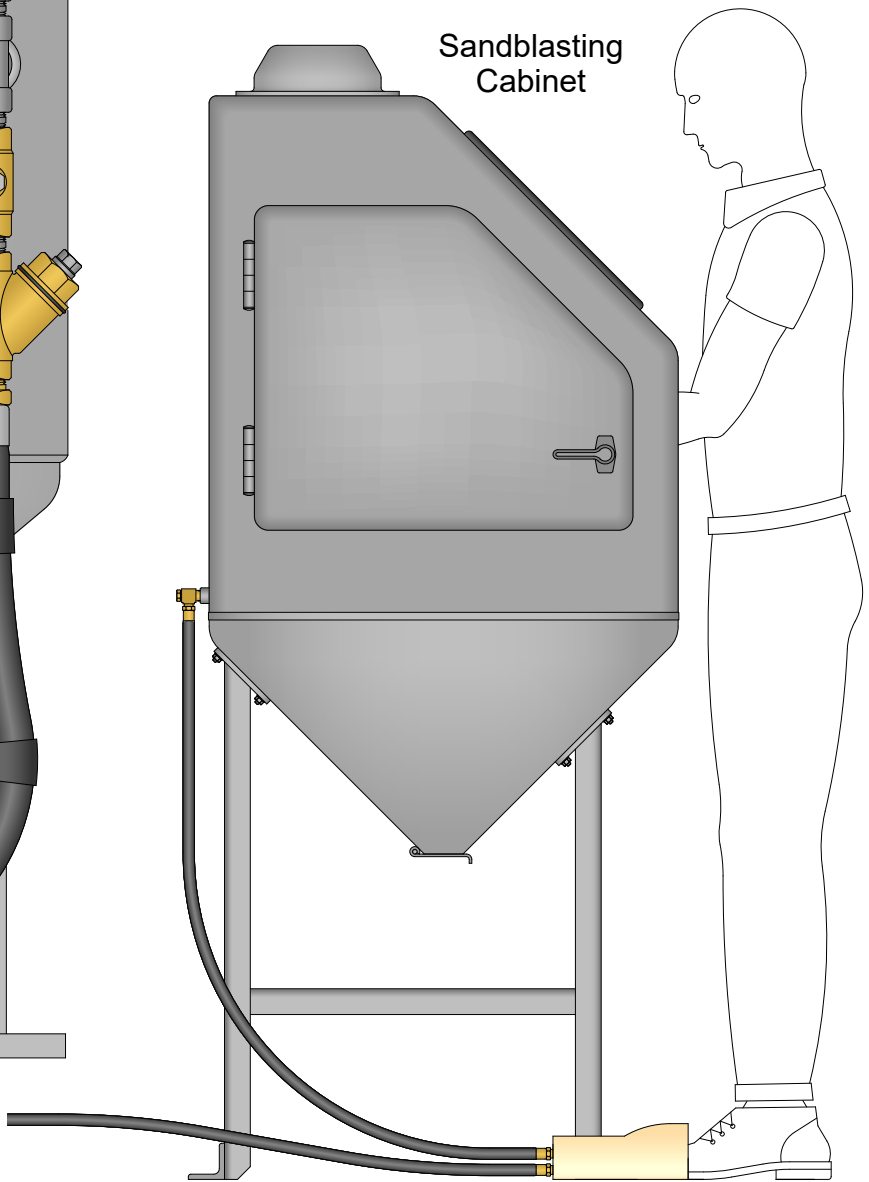
Advanced Technologies for Compressed Air

Automatic Play Sand Sifter for Blast Media
(See technical bulletin Num.: 23)

Industrial
Sandblasting Pot



Sandblasting
Cabinet



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