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Soda Blasting by Sirius Blast Services

Boat & yacht owners can rest easier these days, now that Sirius Blasting Services (SBS) are able to provide their environmentally friendlier anti-fouling service across an increasing number of marinas and boatyards.

By using Sirius Blasting Services, a 35ft yacht with a 9ft beam can be stripped and ready for painting in under 8hours.

SBS out perform alternative methods due to the inherent properties of the Soda and the delivery system used by the Sirius Blasting equipment.

Treating and spotting blisters the easy way

Spotting blisters on an unpainted hull is usually obvious. But when the bottom is camouflaged with multiple layers of paint and marine growth, a less labour-intensive approach is needed. Unlike sanding or corrosive chemicals, Soda Blasting boats removes old coats of antifoulant and blisters quickly, without damaging non-blistered, bare gelcoat, and then properly prepares the surface for repair—all in one operation. No longer is it necessary for a 6 month dry out before filling and fairing.

Blisters are most often caused by osmotic intrusion of water into the hull. As water molecules enter the hull, they pick up acids and other chemicals that alter their composition and size, making the molecules larger and trapping them inside. Since these molecules are unable to find their way out, pressure builds up and forces the gelcoat to separate from the fiberglass, forming a blister. If the blister breaks while immersed, it allows for greater water intrusion into the fiberglass laminate, and perpetrates the blistering process to deeper levels.

Traditional blister repair involves grinding, sanding or sandblasting the hull. This process is time-consuming, labour intensive and, unless extreme care is taken, can result in severe or permanent damage to the gelcoat and fiberglass laminate.

SBS provide a fast, effective and controlled alternative to these conventional methods.

In the Soda Blasting process, a non-destructive stream of specially formulated baking soda is delivered under high pressure to strip the antifoulant paint and open the blister. Then, to prepare the surface for repair and repainting, the affected area around the blister is feathered by split-second, swirled "micro-blasting." This finishes the surface in preparation for repair. The entire process can be accomplished in 1/10th the time as traditional techniques take, resulting in a properly prepared surface that is ready for blister repair and painting.

Soda Blasting boats is also environmentally friendly, a major concern for repair yards and marinas.

Minimal plastic tenting installed around the work area contains the soda and old paint for proper disposal.

Using Soda, surfaces like, aluminium, stainless steel, brick, stone, glass, fibreglass, wood, plastics, bearings, seals, hydraulic cylinders and more can be cleaned and stripped safely.

Not just boats but also many other applications too.



Contact Neil Harman to find out more