

ASCO Dry Ice Blasting System for Hukla Möbel GmbH

For mould cleaning and machine maintenance, HUKLA in Gengenbach relies on the gentle ASCO dry ice blasting technology of the Swiss company ASCO CARBON DIOXIDE LTD.

HUKLA combines old tradition with innovative corporate structures. In 1936 the mattress factory was founded in Haslach, part of the Kinzig Valley. From 1951 to today, production of HUKLA upholstered furniture is manufactured in Gengenbach, located on the edge of the Black Forest, the core for an international group of companies. In 1994 another production site, Torgelow in East Germany was commissioned and in 2004 HUKLA became part of the Steinhoff group.



*Thanks to gentle **ASCO** dry ice blasting, tool wear has been greatly reduced.*

Hukla in Gengenbach manufactures diverse components for upholstered furniture used in residential living areas, such as seat cushions, back cushions, armrests, etc. Quality is the benchmark for all activities at HUKLA, even for their mould cleaning requirements. These standards require they look for a residue-free cleaning method for their PU foaming tools, one which could easily be integrated into the process. After careful consideration, they decided on the Swiss company **ASCO CARBON DIOXIDE LTD** and their **ASCO** dry ice blasting technology. The dry ice blasting unit **ASCOJET** 908 gently and effectively cleans the moulds. In addition, Hukla also uses the **ASCO** dry ice blasting process for maintaining, that is, cleaning their machines. HUKLA also purchase their dry



PU foaming tools before



and after cleaning with dry ice.



There have been tremendous time savings since implementing the dry ice blasting technology for cleaning the PU foaming tools.

ice requirements from **ASCO**. Prior to the introduction of the dry ice blasting process, cleaning meant time-consuming scrubbing by hand using brushes and scrapers. Thus, the amount of time saved by using **ASCO** dry ice cleaning is tremendous. „Depending on the size of the moulds, we now only need 30 minutes to an hour for cleaning, whereas we used to need approx. four hours“, states Markus Gross, Foam Production Manager. In addition to the considerable time savings, Markus Gross views various other advantages of the dry ice blasting as paramount. This because the dry ice directly sublimates upon impact with the surface meaning no secondary waste. There is also a significant reduction in tool wear since dry ice cleaning does not damage moulds or tools in any way, extending their service life and reducing costs considerably.

Why did HUKLA choose **ASCO**? „**ASCO** had on one hand, the best value for our money and on other, presented us cleaning solutions specifically tailored to our needs“, says Markus Gross of the collaboration.

About ASCO:

ASCO is a provider of complete CO₂ and dry ice solutions. The product range includes dry ice blasting units, dry ice production machines, CO₂ production and recovery plants, various CO₂ and dry ice accessories as well as ongoing special projects. With this all-encompassing approach **ASCO** has been a leading provider in the field of dry ice blasting technology for almost 20 years. **ASCO** offers not only powerful dry ice blasting machines but complete individual solutions including comprehensive advice, e.g. optimal integration into the production process, dry ice logistics, noise control etc.

Since 2007 **ASCO** has been a subsidiary of the international industrial gas enterprise Messer Group and is its competence centre for CO₂.

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