

PRESS RELEASE

Swiss “BERNMOBIL” counts on ASCOJET 1701 when cleaning its fleet of vehicles

In the beginning of this year our customer BERNMOBIL have started to clean various components, such as gearboxes, with our dry ice blasting unit ASCOJET 1701. BERNMOBIL is an independent, autonomous public transport company of the city of Bern. Over 1000 employees and a fleet of over 200 vehicles ensure daily mobility in the city and region of Bern.

Cleaning process four times faster

BERNMOBIL previously cleaned the gearboxes, which are installed on the chassis, manually with brushes, cleaning rags and detergent. This process took about one hour and a half per gearbox. In addition, the final result was not very successful because dirt residues were left behind and moisture got inside the gears. Thanks to the dry ice blasting unit ASCOJET 1701, BERNMOBIL now only needs approx. 20 minutes per gearbox to get it completely clean and the gears remain dry inside.

Additionally the ASCOJET 1701 is used for wheel changes. This is done every 280'000 km and this is necessary to clean the "steel bandages" selectively with the ASCOJET 1701. This prevents the wheel bearing grease from being "washed out", which could eventually lead to shrunk lamellar rings and thus to expensive repairs.

Mr. Michael Aufdenblatten (Project Manager Tram) of BERNMOBIL adds: "Dry ice blasting is a somewhat unknown cleaning system in our industry, but which offers many advantages, both technically and economically. We would not give up the ASCO Dry Ice Blasting Machine anymore".

The ASCOJET Dry Ice Blasting Technology is a gentle and environmentally friendly cleaning method without blasting agent residues. Dry ice pellets (solid carbon dioxide) are used as blasting media which are accelerated in the ASCOJET dry ice blasting unit with compressed air to a speed of approx. 300 m/s. The pellets hit the object to be cleaned and the surface is shock-frozen in a fraction of a second. Due to the sudden thermo shock generated on the surface to be cleaned, the coating/dirt contracts, becomes brittle and cracks. Due to the cracking of the surface, the pellets can reach under the dirt and remove it. The additional kinetic energy removes the coating/dirt from the surface. Immediately after impact, the pellets sublime and go back to atmosphere as a pure gas (CO₂)

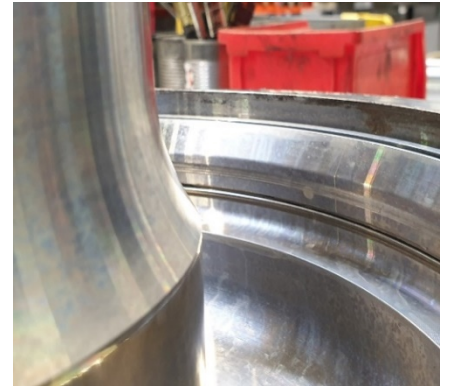
without leaving any moisture behind. The only thing left is the coating/dirt removed from the surface and no blasting media has to be disposed of.



Captions:
clean gears BERNMOBIL



dirty gearbox



traces of laminar rings



Caption: Logo BERNBOMIL



Caption: Tram BERNMOBIL

About ASCO

Swiss ASCO CARBON DIOXIDE LTD is a provider of complete CO2 and dry ice solutions with customers worldwide. The product range includes CO2 Production and CO2 Recovery Plants, Dry Ice Blasting Units, Dry Ice Production Machines, CO2 Cylinder Filling Systems, CO2 Vaporisers, CO2 Storage Tanks, CO2 Dosing Systems for Water Neutralisation and various other CO2 and dry ice equipment. Thanks to this broad product range and more than 130 years of practical experience in the wide field of CO2 and dry ice, customers benefit from individual, complete CO2 solutions from a single source. Since 2007 ASCO has been part of the international industrial gas enterprise Messer Group and is its competence centre for CO2. By joining forces with the German BUSE Gastek GmbH & Co. KG, based in Bad Hönningen, in the year 2014, the expertise and product portfolio was pooled and significantly expanded. This applies in particular to the complex field of CO2 recovery. In July 2016, the US subsidiary ASCO CARBON DIOXIDE INC (ASCO Inc.), based in Jacksonville/Florida, was founded. ascoco2.com

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