MIXING SUSPENSION-TREATED ABRASIVES

TIPS to assure best results mixing suspension-treated abrasives...

Slurry, whether based on water or other types of carriers, benefits from proper initial mixing to achieve thorough volume consistency, which in turn, delivers higher removal rates, more accurate finished surfaces, and longer abrasive life. While every application may not lend itself to these general guidelines, they should be followed whenever possible.

**TIP #1**
Agglomerations can cause excessively scratched surfaces even when the proper abrasive is being used. To reduce particle agglomerations use a separate mixing container rather than the bowl or tank of the actual machine.

**TIP #2**
When preparing water slurries, use warm water during the initial mix. Warm water tends to allow the abrasive particles to fully suspend faster and more completely than in cold water.

**TIP #3**
Mixing slurry several hours (overnight is ideal) before it is needed will increase the mixtures’ suspension absorption as well as its ability to re-suspend during use.

**TIP #4**
Some mixing /stirring /agitating apparatus should be used to blend the abrasive and carrier. Thorough stirring assures complete suspension. Many types of industrial, electrical, or pneumatic mixing devices are available for this operation.

**TIP #5**
During use, when adjusting slurry to set concentration (Baumé reading) to specification, use smaller mixtures of higher or lower concentrations rather than simply adding raw abrasive or water. This will keep the existing slurry consistent, reducing agglomeration.