

N116. Dustless Surface Preparation And Decontamination Systems For Concrete Floors

Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) recently purchased two dustless surface preparation/decontamination systems from Pentek, Inc. of Corapolis (Pittsburgh), Pennsylvania.

The equipment will be used to remove contaminated coatings from concrete floors at the twin unit Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in California. The system consists of VAC-PAC™ Model 10 vacuum/drumming modules, together with several CORNER-CUTTER (Reg. TM) and SQUIRREL-III™ concrete/steel scabbling tools. Pentek's exclusive, dustless surface preparation system will provide PG&E maintenance painting crews with the capability to thoroughly decontaminate and prepare concrete floor surfaces to receive a fresh coat of paint. The plant is approximately 15 years old, and is the target of an aggressive re-coating program expected to require 3 to 5 years to complete.

The Pentek System allows maintenance personnel to perform their work in a dustless environment to minimize exposure to hazardous radioactive materials entrapped within the paint and underlying substrate. The VAC-PAC module is designed to collect the paint chips and debris at the cutting tool edge and to immediately transport this contaminated material into a waste container for final disposal. Personnel are not required to come into physical contact with the waste material at any time, thereby enhancing the maintenance workers' ability to concentrate on surface preparation tasks.

For more information contact Nancy Moore of the Pentek Decontamination Productions Division, Pentek, Inc., 1026 Fourth Avenue, Corapolis, PA 15108, Phone (412) 262-0725.