

The Challenge

A former Ames Department Store was to be torn down to make way for a new, big box, home improvement store. Yankee was called in to remove the asbestos containing materials both inside and outside of the existing building. The inside of the building required the conventional construction of containment with negative pressure equipment and the usual removal techniques for a building of the 1970's. The outside, cinderblock construction was painted with an asbestos-containing paint used to limit the porosity of the cinderblock. The standard practice would be to demolish the cinder block and dispose of it in a hazardous materials landfill along with the waste from the "inside" containment. The problem was the demo of the entire outside wall alone would result in more than 200 tons of hazardous waste.

The Yankee Process

We engineered a shrouded, vacuum system in conjunction with our 40,000 psi Ultra High Pressure Water Jetting equipment to speed the job, assure against possible environmental contamination, and lower the overall cost of the demolition. The vacuum system held the nozzles against the wall, allowing the device to easily move across the surface blasting, and simultaneously, collecting the asbestos residue in the closed filter system. The blast water was continually being recycled to remove the paint (and about a quarter-inch of cinderblock).

The Result

This process assured complete removal of the asbestos-containing material, made potential dusting non-existent, and ensured that no toxic materials escaped collection at the point of generation. An additional—but very significant result—was that the actual asbestos-containing material requiring controlled disposal was reduced by 98% to less than ten 55-gallon drums. This represented a cost saving far greater than the differential between the UHP method and conventional demolition. And Yankee completed the job ahead of schedule!



About Yankee

Yankee Fiber Control is one of New England's oldest and largest environmental/specialty contractors—we're also one of the most innovative. Our highly experienced team is committed to improvement, and so we're constantly learning and developing new solutions. Under one roof, we've gathered a team equipped with today's most sophisticated methods and technologies—so they can respond quickly and effectively to your contracting needs. We're a privately owned business with over twenty years expertise in servicing our customers, including residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional sites such as hospitals and universities. If you need help with any environmental/specialty contracting issues, large or small, call us.

We can help.

Yankee's Core Services

Specialty Abrasive Blasting, Asbestos & Lead Abatement, Industrial Cleaning and Industrial Coatings, Air Duct Cleaning, Commercial and Residential Drying and Mold Remediation.

For information, please call or visit our website.