

The Challenge

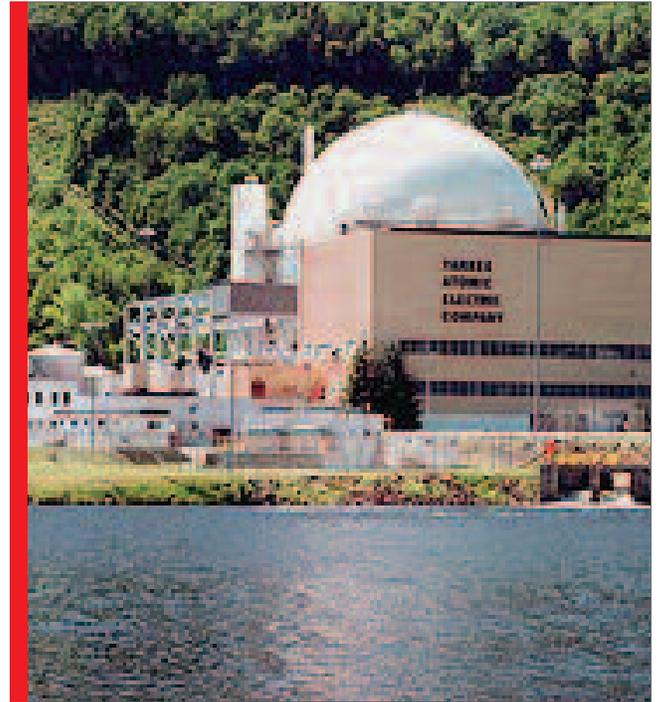
The Yankee Electric Plant in Rowe, Ma (Yankee Rowe) was one of the first nuclear power plants, dating back to the 1950s. Our job was to remove paint that contained asbestos, lead, and PCBs from concrete foundations that were contaminated with radiation. Conventional abrasive blast methods would produce unacceptable occupational exposures and tons of blast debris per day that would become nuclear waste. An extensive level of specialized personnel training was required for the removal of asbestos, lead, and radioactive materials. In addition, the safety culture in the nuclear industry was staggering. All the work procedures required written plans (with prior review) by a safety/engineering committee.

The Yankee Solution

Yankee approached this task with our ultra high pressure (UHP) 40,000 PSI water blast units, outfitted with vacuum recovery and shrouded tools. Blast water recovery is integral to the process—we needed to capture blast residues as they were generated, without creating runoff or air emissions.

The Result

Using our highly engineered system we completed our work in four days—with one barrel of waste, versus several months and 30 or more barrels of nuclear waste. The contractor and power plant operators were so impressed with the performance of our water-blast equipment that they contracted us to do additional water jetting. We also demonstrated that our other surface preparation tools equipped with vacuum recovery shrouds (such as our shot blasting, scarifiers, and pneumatic hand tools) were cost-effective for many applications. Our original contract with Yankee Rowe was for a week with our UHP system—we stayed on site for eight months utilizing our unique equipment on a wide variety of other jobs at Yankee Rowe Nuclear Power Plant.



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.