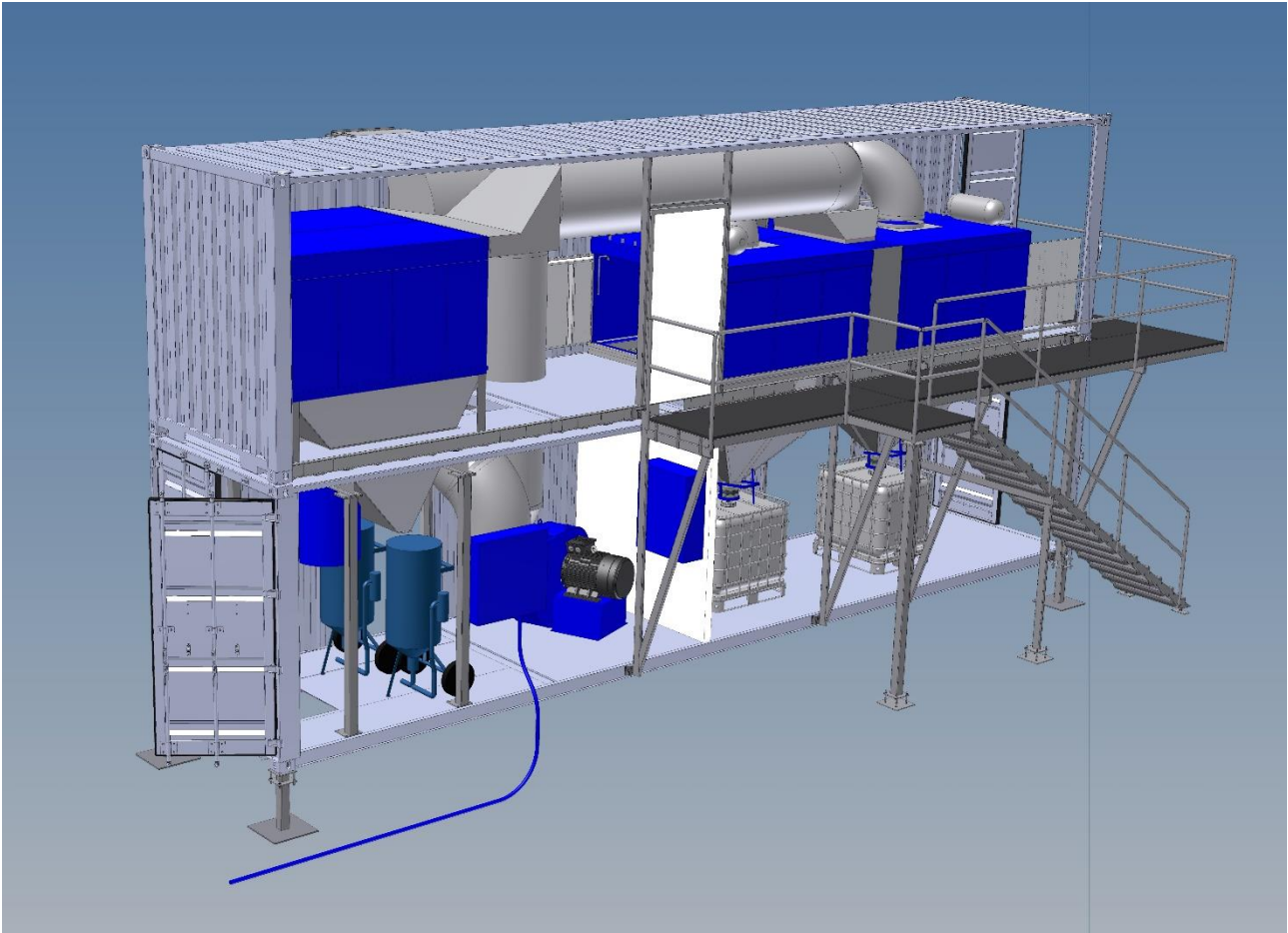


Mobile abrasive blasting solution brings cost savings for Midroc Alucrom in Gothenburg



In the autumn of 2019, Midroc Alucrom AB, Sweden's largest contractor in surface treatment and corrosion protection, invested in a mobile abrasive blasting container and an innovative abrasive recycling system at the Arendal paint shop in Gothenburg, Sweden. The goals were to bring cost-effectiveness, increase flexibility and make surface treatment more environmentally friendly. The solution provider was Pekotek from Finland.

According to **Robert Finnilä**, Director of Midroc Alucrom AB's Gothenburg paint shop, it selected Pekotek as the supplier of the mobile abrasive container and the abrasive recycling system after a tendering process.

According to Finnilä, the paint shop at Arendal needed modernization. This was a major challenge as Arendal has one of Sweden's largest surface treatment industrial halls, with an area of 1,800 square meters, covering in Arendal totally 7 300 square metres.

There were many options available. One alternative was to install new fixed surface

treatment equipment and even to build a new surface treatment industrial hall. Alternatively, Arendal was considering moving to another industrial property and building a new paint shop with new equipments.

As a solution, the Joensuu-based Finnish Pekotek provided Midroc Alucrom with a mobile abrasive blasting container and a simple and a functional abrasive recycling system with no mechanical conveyors for the industrial hall. In Pekotek's innovative solution, the used blasting material moves with air.

Flexibility and cost savings

“We appreciated the smooth cooperation with Pekotek in the past. In 2003, Pekotek was responsible for supplying our paint shop equipment,” says Finnilä says.

“The movability of paint shop equipment brings flexibility and cost savings. The reason is that dismantling the equipment from the industrial hall and re-installing it in the new hall property takes time and entails high costs. If needed, the movable container solution can be transferred to a project site at a rapid rate, even within one day,” Finnilä continues.

“Pekotek took a completely different approach than other solution providers because it emphasized the processes and it sought to find a tailor-made solution, rather than requiring, for example, the demolition of an existing industrial hall and the construction of a new paint shop facility,” Finnilä says.

Non-waste system of abrasives recycling

Pekotek's unique non-waste system of abrasives recycling system is patented. The simple, reliable and low-energy technology fits well into a compact container, and Pekotek's own design and manufacturing allows for customized solutions.

The project proceeded rapidly in steps, from order to installation in about four months. The designing step of the project started in September 2019. After manufacturing, assembling and installation phases, the container was put into production use in January 2020.

Designing, manufacturing and assembling were done at Pekotek's Joensuu workshop.

After the assembling phase, the container was chartered as a standard truck delivery to Arendal's paint shop facility. The container was located outside the industrial hall, where connections were made directly inside to the paint shop facilities.

“We appreciated the fact that Pekotek custom-made the container to fit our specifications and production needs. Careful planning ensured the timely delivery of the container and minimized downtime,” Finnilä continues.

Movable standard container

The movable container can also be taken elsewhere to another Midroc Alucrom paint shop or project site, for example during production peaks and to fill a capacity gap. The standard container, which is suitable for chartering by sea or land, allows easy movability.

“This container delivery to Midroc Alucrom is significant to Pekotek, as it demonstrates the functionality of our mobile concept even in a large paint shop size class, and at the same time it is a new opening to the Swedish market after a break of over ten years,” says CEO **Pasi Piirainen** of Pekotek.

“We provide projects from consulting to complete turnkey delivery, but this containerized delivery simplifies the entire project delivery chain from project planning to manufacturing and installation,” Piirainen continues.

Midroc Alucrom is one of Sweden's leading anti-corrosion contractors with operations in several locations in Sweden, Finland and Poland. The company offers blasting, rust and fire protection painting and advanced surface treatment services in the field, at customers and at paint shops. Alucrom AB is part of Midroc Europe. In 2018 Midroc Europe had sales of SEK 8.1 billion and employed 4,000 professionals.

PEKOTEK'S SOLUTION

Pekotek delivered an abrasive blasting solution and an innovative abrasive recycling system to Midroc Alucrom AB's paint shop in Arendal, Gothenburg, Sweden.

BENEFITS TO MIDROC ALUCROM AB

Cost savings by eliminating the need to build device space and eliminating the cost of disassembling and reinstalling devices.

Short production outage.

The mobile container/the abrasive blasting container can be quickly moved to another location.

Making surface treatment more environmentally friendly.

Increasing energy efficiency.

Increasing the competitiveness of surface treatment.

MIDROC ALUCROM AB

The leading surface treatment contractor and coating applicator in Sweden.

Operations in Sweden, Finland and Poland.

Established in 1953.

Part of the Midroc Europe since 1996.