



Western Australia

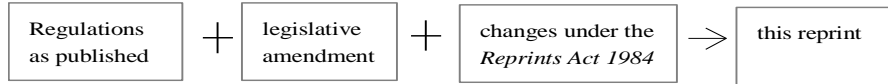
Environmental Protection Act 1986

**Environmental Protection  
(Abrasive Blasting)  
Regulations 1998**

**Reprint 1: The regulations as at 2 April 2004**

## Guide for using this reprint

### *What the reprint includes*



### *Endnotes, Compilation table, and Table of provisions that have not come into operation*

1. Details about the original regulations and legislation that has amended its text are shown in the Compilation table in endnote 1, at the back of the reprint. The table also shows any previous reprint.
2. Transitional, savings, or other provisions identified in the Compilation table may be important. The table may refer to another endnote setting out the text of these provisions in full.
3. A table of provisions that have not come into operation, to be found in endnote 1a if it is needed, lists any provisions of the regulations being reprinted that have not come into operation and any amendments that have not come into operation. The full text is set out in another endnote that is referred to in the table.

### *Notes amongst text (italicised and within square brackets)*

1. If the reprint includes a regulation that was inserted, or has been amended, since the regulations being reprinted were made, editorial notes at the foot of the regulation give some history of how the regulation came to be as it is. If the regulation replaced an earlier regulation, no history of the earlier regulation is given (the full history of the regulations is in the Compilation table).

Notes of this kind may also be at the foot of Schedules or headings.

2. The other kind of editorial note shows something has been —
  - removed (because it was repealed or deleted from the law); or
  - omitted under the *Reprints Act 1984* s. 7(4) (because, although still technically part of the text, it no longer has any effect).

The text of anything removed or omitted can be found in an earlier reprint (if there is one) or one of the written laws identified in the Compilation table.

### *Reprint numbering and date*

1. The reprint number (in the footer of each page of the document) shows how many times the regulations have been reprinted. For example, numbering a reprint as “Reprint 3” would mean that the reprint was the 3<sup>rd</sup> reprint since the regulations were published. Reprint numbering was implemented as from 1 January 2003.
2. The information in the reprint is current on the date shown as the date as at which the regulations are reprinted. That date is not the date when the reprint was published by the State Law Publisher and it is probably not the date when the most recent amendment had effect.



Reprinted under the  
*Reprints Act 1984* as  
at 2 April 2004

Western Australia

## Environmental Protection (Abrasive Blasting) Regulations 1998

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Environmental Protection Act 1986

## Environmental Protection (Abrasive Blasting) Regulations 1998

### 1. Citation

These regulations may be cited as the *Environmental Protection (Abrasive Blasting) Regulations 1998*<sup>1</sup>.

### 2. Interpretation

In these regulations —

“**abrasive blasting**” means cleaning or abrading the surface of an object using an abrasive material propelled by compressed air, water or steam or by a wheel;

“**aquatic environment**” means any watery environment including marine, estuarine and riverine environments;

“**blasting chamber**” means a fully enclosed structure in which abrasive blasting is carried on;

“**dry abrasive blasting**” means abrasive blasting during which no water is added to the abrasive material or the propellant;

“**operator**” means a person carrying on abrasive blasting;

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**“waste material”** means used abrasive, abraded material, waste generated by cleaning an object prior to blasting, and any other waste products created during abrasive blasting, including waste collected in a dust extractor, settling pond or tank, or holding sump;

**“wet abrasive blasting”** means abrasive blasting during which water is added to the abrasive material or its propellant or is used as the propellant;

**“wet scrubber”** means a device in which water or other liquid is used to remove particulate matter from a gas stream.

- (2) In these regulations a reference to abrasive blasting being carried on **“in the open”** is a reference to abrasive blasting being carried on other than in a blasting chamber.

**3. Prohibition on the use of certain materials**

An operator must not use —

- (a) any material containing 2% or more free silica (crystalline silicon dioxide) in abrasive blasting; or
- (b) corrosion inhibitors containing chromate, nitrate or nitrite in wet abrasive blasting.

**4. Blasting chambers to be used if possible**

An operator must carry on all abrasive blasting in a blasting chamber unless such a chamber cannot reasonably be used because of the size, shape, position or location of the object being blasted.

**5. Blasting chambers**

An operator must ensure that a blasting chamber —

- (a) is completely sealed; or
- (b) is fitted with a mechanical ventilation and dust extraction system which is operating so that —
  - (i) no visible dust escapes from the blasting chamber;



- (ii) all air from the blasting chamber passes through the ventilation and dust extraction system before being discharged into the environment; and
  - (iii) air discharged into the environment does not contain any visible dust or more than 50 milligrams of particulate matter per cubic metre.
- (2) If the ventilation and dust extraction system for a blasting chamber includes a wet scrubber the operator must ensure that —
  - (a) waste water from the scrubber is drained into, and contained in, settling tanks or ponds until all particulate matter has settled out; and
  - (b) the settling ponds or tanks are emptied as often as necessary to ensure their efficient operation.

**6. Abrasive blasting in the open**

An operator must not carry on abrasive blasting in the open unless it is carried on in such a manner that no visible dust escapes from the premises at which the blasting is carried on (or if there are no defined boundaries to the premises, no such dust escapes onto any place to which the public has access).

**7. Abrasive blasting in or near aquatic environments**

- (1) This regulation only applies to abrasive blasting operations which involve the use or removal of organotin or other heavy metal protective coatings.
- (2) An operator must not carry on abrasive blasting in or near an aquatic environment unless the size, shape, position or location of the object being blasted makes it impracticable to move the object out of, or away from, that environment.
- (3) An operator carrying on abrasive blasting in or near an aquatic environment must ensure that all water which may contain waste material is drained into, and contained in, an impervious

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holding sump until it is disposed of in accordance with regulation 8.

- (4) An operator must ensure that —
- (a) any overflow from the holding sump will drain into a soakwell; and
  - (b) the holding sump and soakwell are emptied as often as necessary to ensure their efficient operation.

**8. Waste disposal**

An operator must ensure that —

- (a) all waste material is cleaned up at the conclusion of each abrasive blasting operation;
- (b) no waste material escapes from the premises at which the blasting is carried on (or if there are no defined boundaries to the premises, no waste material escapes onto any place to which the public has access); and
- (c) all waste material is disposed of at an appropriate landfill site or waste treatment facility the occupier of which holds a licence under Part V of the Act in respect of that site or facility.

**9. Offences and penalties**

A person who contravenes any of these regulations commits an offence.

Penalty: \$5 000.

*[Regulation 9 amended in Gazette 11 Dec 1998 p. 6614.]*

**10. Repeal**

The *Sandblasting Operations Regulations* are repealed.

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### **Notes**

- <sup>1</sup> This reprint is a compilation as at 2 April 2004 of the *Environmental Protection (Abrasive Blasting) Regulations 1998* and includes the amendments made by the other written laws referred to in the following table. The table also contains information about any reprint.

### **Compilation table**

<b>Citation</b>	<b>Gazettal</b>	<b>Commencement</b>
<i>Environmental Protection (Abrasive Blasting) Regulations 1998</i>	3 Apr 1998 p. 1970-2	3 Apr 1998
<i>Environmental Protection (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1998 Pt. 7</i>	11 Dec 1998 p. 6597-614	8 Jan 1999 (see r. 2)
<b>Reprint 1: The <i>Environmental Protection (Abrasive Blasting) Regulations 1998</i> as at 2 Apr 2004</b> (includes amendments listed above)		

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