

Automating Accretion Removal



*Scale build-up costs the alumina industry millions annually.
(Photo courtesy of QAL)*

What are Scale and Accretions costing you?

- Reduced plant throughput
- Unstable operations
- Downtime
- Safety hazards
- Costly removal processes
- Delays
- Higher maintenance costs

Lewis Australia is helping to reduce the costs and problems associated with scale and accretions in a range of industries throughout Australia.

Quantum Change Achieved

One example is the joint project with a major alumina refinery to develop a fully automated portable valve grinding unit (Patent Pending) to de-scale the seats of high pressure slurry valves. This hazardous manual operation that previously took days to perform can now be completed automatically and safely in just hours. No modifications are required to existing valves and grinding is performed with the valve in-situ.

The valve grinding unit undergoing workshop trials.



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Remote Wash-Down

The development of a remotely controlled hosing vehicle capable of operating on steep, uneven slopes reduces the off line time for scale removal in thickeners, tanks and washers.

It provides a major improvement in OH&S as the operators are no longer required to enter the vessels or to struggle with high pressure hoses in a hazardous environment.



*Mechanising the de-scaling reduces downtime.
Remote control then removes the operator from the hazards.*



Excessive accretion in a furnace throat can be minimised with an automatic bar-down device.

Lewis Capabilities

Lewis Australia can help you to cut costs, downtime and hazards associated with scale and accretion removal with an automation solution tailored to your environment.

We have expertise in:

- Automated valve grinding machines
- Delivery mechanisms for impact and water-jet de-scale heads
- Remote control
- All terrain delivery platforms
- Remote wash-down/hose-out
- Confined entry de-scaling
- Furnace accretion removal devices
- Robotics

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