

# Micro-Abrasive Blasting Solutions for Wire Stripping

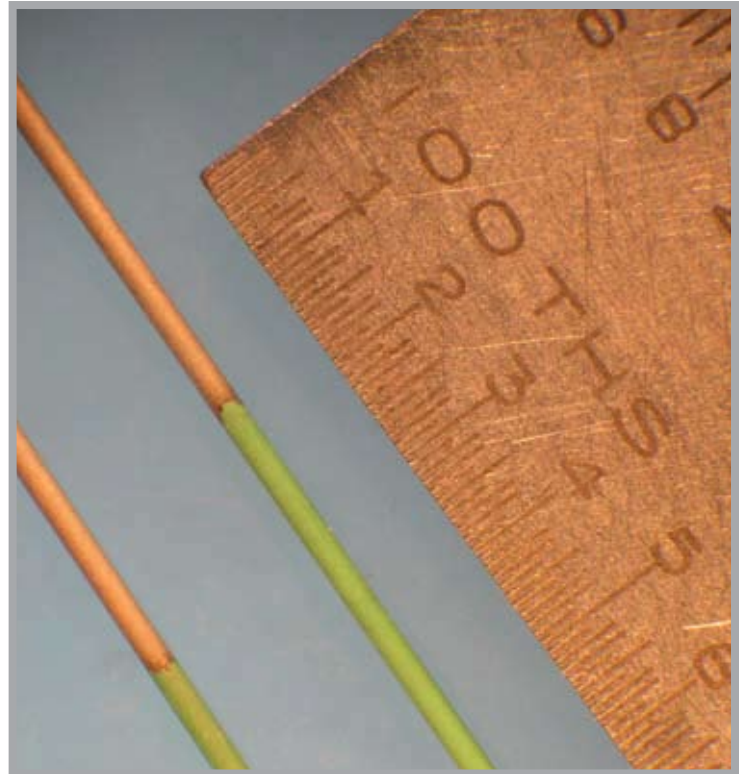
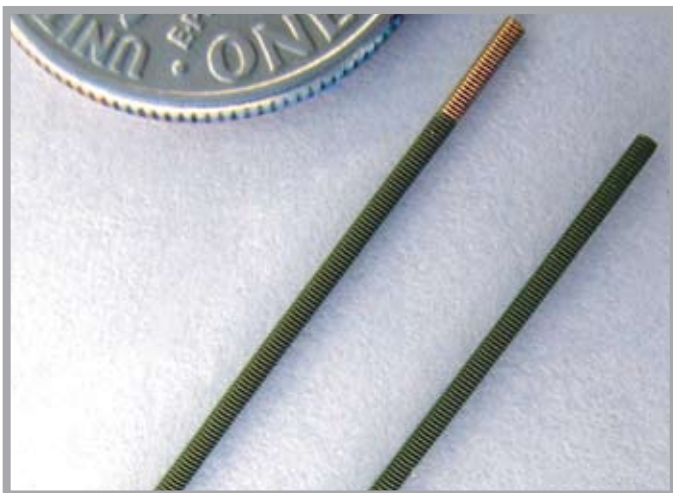
## Effective Surface Preparation

The rapid growth of minimally invasive procedures in the medical industry has created a growing demand for guidewires and catheters. To reduce friction in the body, these products are typically coated with a polymer. The lubricity of the coating however, creates a challenge in manufacturing as it is not conducive to bonding. On locations where components need to be bonded to the guidewire the coating must be removed; if not, it will impact the welding process.

Micro-abrasive blasting (microblasting) is often used to treat or texture fine wires and tubes because of its ability to selectively remove material. Derived from sandblasting, this technology involves mixing a very fine amount of an abrasive agent with an air stream. Controlled with a pen-sized handpiece, small areas can be targeted precisely without the need for masking.

## Choosing the Right Abrasive

An effective process used in a wide range of industries, microblasting uses various abrasive media to achieve the desired results. A gentle abrasive is able to remove the coating completely without damaging the integrity of the guidewire.



Water soluble abrasives are typically used since they can be easily removed through the normal cleaning process. Microblasting consistently provides complete removal of the coating, essential to avoiding the risk of residual contamination.

In some cases the surface of the wire or tube needs to be roughened to improve the bond strength. By selecting a more aggressive abrasive, the process will quickly etch the surface of the wire and create a rough finish. By increasing the roughness of the surface the strength of a mechanical bond is increased significantly.

The power, precision and repeatability of micro-abrasive blasting make it an ideal process for a variety of applications. The use of non-toxic substances and the exacting precision obtainable using this technology also make this a safe and effective method for surface treatment in the medical and electronic industries.

# Comco's Ring Nozzle for Wire Applications

## Introducing an Improved Nozzle for Wire Stripping

Nozzles are an integral part of the micro-abrasive blasting system: they provide the focus and acceleration to the abrasive stream generated by the blaster. Comco has developed a new type of nozzle that focuses multiple streams of abrasive to more effectively process wire applications.

The MB1570 Ring Nozzle, powered by a DirectFlo™ or PowerFlo®, spreads the abrasive flow uniformly over a circular cross section. This eliminates the need for rotation of the part as required in a single nozzle setup and creates a more consistent finish than multiple-nozzle fixtures.

Integrated with reel-to-reel systems, the Ring Nozzle can be used to treat selective sections of a length of wire. It is equally effective for blasting the ends of wire with exacting delineation.

The Ring Nozzle can be easily mounted to the iris of any Comco WorkStation with the MB1580 accessory mounting kit.

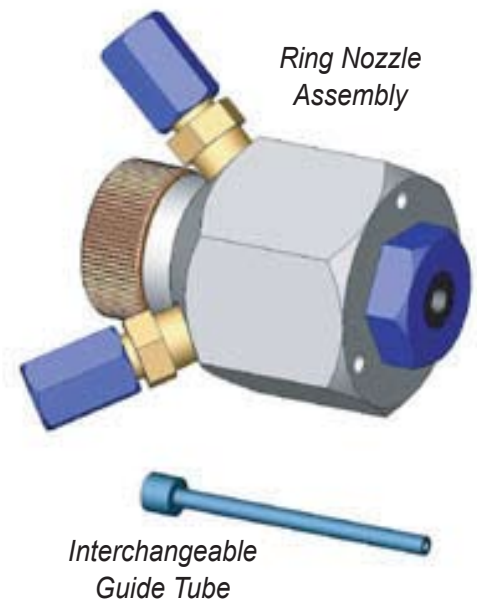


## The Right Fit

A Guide Tube is used to ensure the part is fed through the center of the blast stream for consistent results. Guide Tubes are available in a range of sizes and can be ordered with the Ring Nozzle or separately to accommodate a range of wire with one nozzle.

## Specifications

Model	Guide Tube	Inch	Part OD Range	mm
MB1570*	Not Included			
MB1570-009	MB1573-009	0 to .009		0 to .23
MB1570-025	MB1573-025	.010 to .025		.24 to .64
MB1570-041	MB1573-041	.026 to .041		.65 to 1.04
MB1570-048	MB1573-048	.042 to .048		1.05 to 1.22
MB1570-058	MB1573-058	.049 to .058		1.23 to 1.47
MB1570-064	MB1573-064	.059 to .064		1.48 to 1.63
MB1570-076	MB1573-076	.065 to .076		1.64 to 1.93
MB1570-085	MB1573-085	.077 to .085		1.94 to 2.16
MB1570-094	MB1573-094	.086 to .094		2.17 to 2.39
MB1570-099	MB1573-099	.095 to .099		2.40 to 2.51



\* Model MB1570 Ring Nozzle does not include a Guide Tube. Models MB1570-009 are supplied with ONE Guide Tube as listed. Guide Tubes may be ordered separately for replacement or change-over between different size parts.

**Contact us today at 800-796-6626  
and discover the MicroBlasting solution to your production problems!**

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