



Overview

In the U.K., High Pressure water jetting has long been a reliable method for removing excess binder on fatted-up roads and for cleaning contaminants from surfaces (oil on roads, chewing gum on paths etc.).

Now, at increased pressures, Ultra High Pressure water jetting is an even more powerful tool for cleaning and improving skid resistance.

Studies have shown that UHP water cutting can rejuvenate a road surface, leaving it literally better than new (J.C. Waters, Fulton Logan Ltd., NZ, 2004).

What is UHP

UHP jet blasting is a revolutionary system used for the past five years in the U.S. and New Zealand and now brand new to the U.K. It bombards the road surface with water at pressures up to 40,000 PSI and speeds of Mach 1.5. A vacuum recovery system removes all water and contaminants, leaving the surface as good as new.



Ultra High Pressure Water Jet Blasting for Improving Road Safety - Renewing Texture and Removing Road Markings

greavesy jet blast

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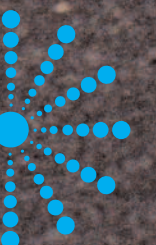
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Retexturing Roads as good as new!

What it does

UHP blasting, unlike its earlier counterpart, is capable of improving micro and macro texture in a single pass, as well as cleaning contaminates from the surface. It also efficiently removes road markings.

The new system retextures on a micro level, returning polished aggregates to freshly crushed quality - and sometimes better - vastly improving road surface friction. Because the aggregates are physically pitted by the ultra high pressure water, the results are as permanent as laying a new road surface. High pressure water blasting was unable to do this.

UHP blasting also shocks the road or pavement surface, forcing binder to react as a solid. It then chips off a fine film of the excess fattening to remove surface contaminates and reveal drowned aggregates, re-establishing macro texture.

The amount of fattening removed is typically slight - the process has been repeated on test sections on New Zealand roads dozens of times with no proved degradation to the surface's integrity. Water pressure and the movement of the washer head can control the amount of binder removed. Less pressure actually increases the amount removed. Because of this, Greavesy equipment is fully adaptable and is therefore equally powerful for cleaning and retexturing aggregate-thin and aggregate-thick roads.



The proof

A New Zealand study (J.C. Waters, 1998-2004) showed improvements in skid resistance on road aggregates from PSVs in the 50s to 70s.

U.K. trials show that UHP retexturing improves the skid resistance of roads from PSVs in the 50s to 70s - and even as high as a PSV of 85.



Cleaning Spills

Because UHP water jetting completely renews a surface it is the perfect tool for cleaning spills and contaminates, such as for road accidents, oil patches, grime build up in car parks etc.



Removing road markings

The system is also perfect for removing lines on roadwork jobs and in car parks. It's almost as fast as blacking out lines and more environmentally safe and less harmful to the road surface than burning. (Blowtorches burn off tar and weakens binding, damaging the surface.)



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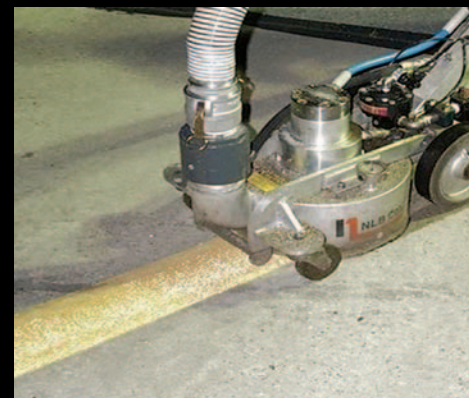
The equipment

Greavesy UHP equipment is typically a tanker unit and a washer unit. The tanker carries a water supply, recovery tank and pressurising system. The washer unit varies depending on the job and can be as large as a tractor, for retexturing and cleaning whole road lanes in one pass, and as small as a floor polisher, a handheld device perfect for town centre jobs, paths etc.



Washing road markings

Along similar lines, it is also perfect for washing road markings. A tractor unit on low power is capable of cleaning miles of road markings in one day, completely restoring reflectivity to brand new levels and vastly improving road safety.



Concrete

UHP jet blasting is equally powerful on concrete surfaces, including motorways and airports, as it is on asphalt. It is used extensively for retexturing and cleaning concrete highways and industrial areas in the United States.

The benefits of UHP jet blasting

- **Cost efficient:** extends road surface life between resurfacing for loss of friction.
- **Environmentally friendly:** no environmental impact, jobsite left clean, inert waste recycled.
- **Weather independent:** treat roads in winter, in the rain. The surface does not have to be dry.
- **Less detrimental to traffic:** restore a road surface to new for texture and appearance at half a mile an hour.
- **Multipurpose:** completely renews appearance and texture of initial surface for roads and pavements. **Perfect for renewing town centres and improving pedestrian safety.**
- **Emergency service available**