

CLEAR IMPRESSIONS

GRUNDON
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Grundon cleans up

From biologically contaminated buildings to chemical spills, site clearance to fly-tipped waste, Grundon's Industrial Services team has a cleaning solution for everything. And, as **Andy Stratton**, Grundon's industrial services sales manager, explains, no two days are ever the same.



We often say we do the jobs no-one else wants to do and that's because they are generally very challenging, potentially dangerous, almost certainly smelly, and quite often unique. Our skills are very specialist, with expertise built up over many years, and that enables us to provide a comprehensive service to a wide range of customers, including industrial, commercial, research laboratories, pharmaceutical companies, healthcare facilities, manufacturers, and universities.

Put simply, we go in and clean up the mess and we do so in a way that ensures absolute compliance with all regulations, something which is very important and puts our customers' minds at ease. Not only that, but because we can dispose of the materials - usually through Grundon's own Hazardous Waste Transfer station in Oxfordshire - we can offer the complete package, something that really sets us apart in the market.

Challenges

When it comes to decontamination projects, quite often one of the issues will be that the customer doesn't know what they are dealing with. For example, it might be a now defunct laboratory with faintly-labelled chemicals sat in ageing bottles on the shelf; it could be an old building where asbestos has been removed and there are concerns that asbestos fibres may still remain; or it could be dealing with drugs paraphernalia left in a children's playground.

Our consultancy approach is to send our expert team in to take swabs or samples, which are then sent off to specialist testing laboratories for analysis. Once the materials have been identified, we will write a risk assessment and method statement outlining our decontamination solution, which will include on-site cleaning, transport and disposal.

We're also very good at determining and identifying the wider risks. Take, for example, the cleaning of interceptor tanks - yes, a company can come in, suck out the waste and leave it until the next time the service is required. We capture the waste, jet out the interceptor tanks, clean them inside and then use CCTV to check for any leaks or internal damage. It might be a more lengthy process but it provides a much safer environmental approach and also improves the overall longevity of the tanks themselves.

Planning and time-critical jobs

Every job is bespoke and takes a lot of planning, and many have long lead-in times, such as when buildings are being demolished or refurbished.

Maintenance in the manufacturing sector is usually planned well in advance and we know from experience that the Christmas shutdown period is often the only time a production line

may stop - our teams are primed and ready to go in and undertake whatever cleaning may be required over the holiday period, and we're already taking bookings.

Clearly though, not everyone has the luxury of booking ahead. Chemical or acid spills and accidents, biological contamination, fire damage, leaking tanks or drums, and split pipes are all typical situations where we can be asked to help quickly. Fly-tipping and clean-ups is another fast-growing area and we do a great deal of work with councils who ask us to come in, undertake a clean-up operation and ensure an area is safe again for the public to use.

We offer an emergency response service with the ability to identify and analyse the contamination, contain it, waste package it, and high pressure jet clean the area using specialised enzyme-based environmentally considerate clean up chemicals and materials.

Safety first

The safety of our employees, our customers and the wider community will always be paramount and we pride ourselves on an unblemished safety record. All our employees are highly-certificated, most recently on the Construction Site Certification Scheme (CSCS). They go through extensive training, including a specialist confined spaces training course where they have to practice escaping a confined space wearing breathing apparatus.

Such attention to detail also means they are up to speed with the latest legislation and compliance issues - in turn, this enables them to give advice to our customers about what they should be doing.

Innovation

We're always looking at ways to use new technologies to improve the work we do and our mercury clean-up equipment is a good example of that. Our mercury detection monitor can identify when mercury vapour is present in the air and the Environment Mercury vacuum unit, which is fitted with special filters, then



enables the mercury metal to be safely captured and removed.

Typically, mercury can be found in research facilities, laboratories and healthcare establishments - for those of us that remember mercury thermometers and how often they would break, you'd be surprised how long traces of mercury can linger under floorboards or in cupboards.

Contact us

With our expertise and track record, we believe we are the best in the business, so why not come and talk to us about your cleaning problems.

Please contact:
industrial@grundon.com or call us on **01491 834 340**.

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