

**OUR MISSION**  
We leverage the universal benefits of glass beads for your special industry applications, in energy-efficient ways.

**OUR VISION**  
Industrial glass beads by SWARCO Indusferica – the world’s preferred choice in all niches

**OUR VALUES**  
Efficiency  
Diversity  
Intelligence

**OUR MOTTO**  
Universal Efficiency



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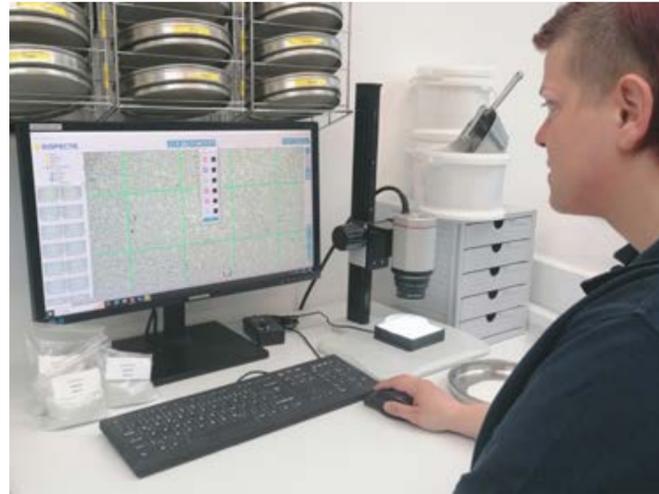
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# QUALITY ASSURANCE

A Look behind the Scenes



Quality Assurance team member Beatrix Pfeiffer inspects the charges produced under a microscope. Photo credit: SWARCO Indusferica

**At SWARCO Indusferica, quality assurance plays a pivotal role in guaranteeing the standards of the products we produce. And in addition to a wide variety of processes, there are also challenges to be overcome. In all of this, our top priority is to continuously improve the quality of our products and ensure customer satisfaction.**

Our Quality Assurance team’s main tasks include incoming inspections of the raw materials as well as final lab inspection of the batches produced. This involves checking aspects such as particle-size distribution, roundness, coating and the refractive index. Batches that fail to meet the specifications are rejected and won’t be released for shipment. Precise, clean and conscientious work is particularly important here.

One of the biggest challenges is inspecting a large number of different articles every day and making sure that they meet our strict quality standards. If problems are found, the Quality Assurance team works in close collaboration with Production to identify the cause and prevent errors in the future. For this purpose, the QA staff relies on tools and technologies, such as microscopes, scales and sieves. We use SAP as our ERP system for precise documentation and long-term data storage. While digitalization has certainly made work easier, our staff’s experience and technical expertise are indispensable for achieving the best results.

Close cooperation with other departments, such as Production and Sales, is key for detecting errors early on and ensuring product quality. Client feedback and data play an equally important role, especially with customized articles which have additional properties that need to be checked. In all of this, we continuously strive to maximize customer satisfaction. “Usually, people are happy to receive positive client feedback, but in our work, no feedback is good feedback,” says Quality Assurance team member Beatrix Pfeiffer.

# ALL-ROUNDER

News and Updates from SWARCO Indusferica



QUALITY ASSURANCE

STATE-OF-THE-ART PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY

SITA 24/25

SWARCOBLAST GLASS BLASTING BEADS



Dear readers,

The grey of winter is making way for sunny days and blue skies, and signs of spring are multiplying. As the first little thoughts of longing for summer start to enter our mind, we're delighted to introduce the next All-Rounder. In this issue, we will once again share exciting news from the world of glass beads.

Quality is our top priority. That's why we've decided to give you insights into the important work of our Quality Assurance team. We also want to encourage and support young talents. With the SWARCO Indusferica Talent Award 24/25, we are looking for promising scientific and technological ideas for how to use glass beads in industrial processes.

What's more, we want to be part of the solution for a sustainable future. Learn about our continuous work to develop long-term prospects and which UN Sustainable Development Goals we are already implementing in this issue of the All-Rounder.

Last but not least, we have introduced a new tool to help you check your potential. In collaboration with our team of experts, Procurement can explore hidden potential in your organization and achieve tailor-made solutions faster.

Have a good read!

Best regards,

*Stephanie Müller*

Stephanie Müller  
Marketing Manager  
SWARCO Indusferica



## SWARCOBLAST CHECK YOUR POTENTIAL



SCAN THE  
QR CODE TO  
FIND OUT MORE



For SITA 24/25, we are looking for innovative ideas on the use of glass beads in different industrial areas. Photo credit: Studio 0816, Midjourney

## SITA 24/25

### Brainstorming Battle for Young Visionaries

**Finding, encouraging and supporting innovative ideas and tomorrow's talents takes center stage as SWARCO INDUSFERICA announces the first SWARCO Indusferica Talent Award (SITA) 24/25. The goal of the Award is to discover and recognize scientific and technological achievements in applied research on the use of glass beads for industrial applications.**

"SITA 24/25 aims to encourage researchers to explore new ideas and methods and tap the potential of glass beads for a variety of applications," explains Stephanie Müller, Marketing Manager at SWARCO Indusferica.

The competition is intended for students from universities and universities of applied sciences in the field of material science in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Students can submit theoretical papers or research projects describing an innovative idea for the use of glass beads. Submissions will be assessed based on criteria such as innovative strength, sustainability, practicability and benefit for the industry.

SITA 24/25 will hand out a total of 3,500 euros, with the winner of first prize receiving 1,500 euros, while the winners of second and third prize will each take home 1,000 euros.

The deadline for entries is 30 January 2025, and the winners will be announced by 28 February. Prizes will be awarded in March 2025.

SITA 24/25 encourages researchers to present their creative ideas and contribute to advancing the development of industrial applications of glass beads.



# STATE-OF-THE-ART PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY

## Working with Foresight towards a Sustainable Future

**The Global Glass Beads Technology Center in Neufurth, Austria, reflects our commitment towards the environment and people in everything it does. Here, products are manufactured with the utmost care. We are constantly working to improve our processes to make them more sustainable. This makes us not only environmentally friendly but also resilient to the challenges of global influencing factors.**

Glass beads by SWARCO Indusferica consist of 100% high-grade recycled glass from the flat glass industry. With our SWARCOFORCE and SWARCOBLAST glass beads, we are setting new standards for environmental compatibility with an average carbon footprint of only 1.14 CO<sub>2</sub>e/kg of product. Packaging is also designed to use resources responsibly and ensure a high level of recyclability.

But to us, sustainability means more than just environmentally friendly production. We keep transport distances short and rely on local suppliers to further improve our life cycle assessments. Through continuous research in collaboration with recognized institutions, we always look for innovative solutions for sustainable products and processes.

Our efforts are also firmly anchored in the Sustainable Development Goals. We analyze the ecological footprint of our raw materials with regard to SDG 9 and rely on secondary raw materials and regional sourcing to minimize transport distances and strengthen sustainable production in line with SDG 12. We are also actively committed to climate protection (SDG 13) by advancing products with the smallest ecological footprint.

We conduct comprehensive LCAs to ensure that our efforts are transparent. Using the Ecochain Helix software solution, we regularly prepare detailed analyses that are verified externally at least every three years. At SWARCO Indusferica, we combine innovation with responsibility to create a sustainable future for everyone.

# SWARCOBLAST GLASS BLASTING BEADS

## Shot Peening: The Secret Ingredient

**Fatigue fractures and corrosion are primarily caused by stresses that are too high for the material. Shot peening with SWARCOBLAST glass blasting beads makes components more resistant and resilient.**

This method opens up countless advantages for a wide variety of applications. Greater fatigue strength of components not only results in higher resilience to stresses and enhanced safety of existing structures. It also enables better performance at the same weight, or even a reduction in weight with the same performance.

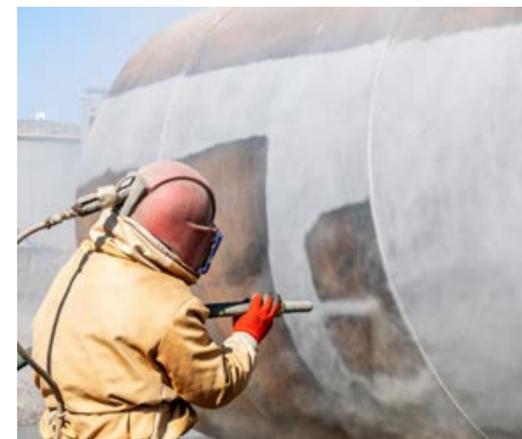


Photo credit: Studio 0816, Adobe Stock

How it works: Shot peening induces high compressive residual stresses in the plastified zone of the component, which compensate for external tensile stresses, thus preventing crack formation. This not only improves the service life of the components, but also their resistance to stress corrosion cracking and vibration corrosion cracking (corrosion fatigue).

It is particularly fascinating that this technique is most effective when applied to components that are subject to high stresses and when complex shapes are involved. In addition to compacting, SWARCOBLAST glass blasting beads can also be used for a broad range of other applications, from cleaning materials and texturing to engraving.

Find out if SWARCOBLAST glass blasting beads fit your product with our new, easy-to-use tool to check your potential. Get in touch with our team of experts to assess your current processes and identify areas which could offer potential for optimization and growth. By conducting joint analyses and gaining strategic insights, we discover unused opportunities and develop tailor-made solutions for your specific requirements.

#needforbeads