

# D.H. GRIFFIN OF TEXAS

## CLEAR UTAH ACID PLANT

MAGNA, UTAH

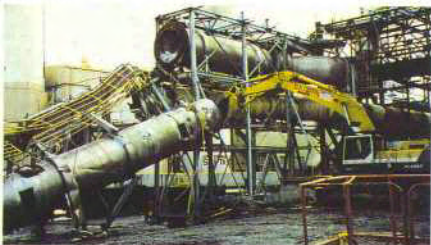


*D.H. Griffin of Texas working on Utah sulphuric acid plant.*

NADC-member D H. Griffin of Texas, Inc. of Houston, Texas recently completed the decontamination and demolition of a sulfuric acid plant located smack in the center of a fully operational copper smelting plant in Magna, Utah. The system was contaminated with sulfuric acid, vanadium pentoxide and acid containing flue dust.

Griffin's plan called for the removal of the flue dust from the twelve foot diameter by 1500 foot long double flue by cutting access holes in the duct and then vacuuming out the dust. When the access holes were cut, it was discovered that the flue dust and acid mixture had formed a peanut butter-like substance which could not be vacuumed.

Griffin developed another system where the flue pipe was sectionalized and sealed in order to contain the material. The dust was then brought to the ground in a controlled manner, where it was decontaminated and the acid-laden material was loaded into roll-off containers for disposal. The ducts were then cut up for recycling. The remainder of the duct support system was demolished using a Komatsu PC 400 Excavator equipped with a LaBounty UP50 Universal Pulverizer.



*Excavator cuts process lines at Utah sulphuric acid plant*



*D.H. Griffin of Texas topples sulphuric acid plant.*

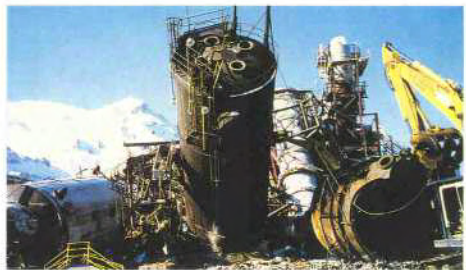
Another integral part of the project was the removal of the acid converter which stood 35 feet in diameter, 40 feet high and contained vanadium pentoxide catalyst. This converter was isolated and access holes were cut into it which allowed for the vacuuming of approximately 30% of the vanadium pentoxide catalyst. The converter was then laid on its side and opened up with the UP50. The remaining catalyst was removed and loaded into roll-off containers for removal to the landfill.

Also removed were the hot, cold and intermediate exchangers, a cooling tower, four lap fans, pre-heater, electrical equipment and substation, all process piping, eight electrostatic precipitators, a humidifying tower, packed towers with ceramic saddles, an absorbing tower, a drying tower and all concrete foundations and footings down to 8 feet below grade.

Griffin performed all of this work, on schedule, during one of Salt Lake City's snowiest and coldest winters, with no lost time injuries.



*Using a grapple to clean the sulphuric acid plant*



*Sorting scrap at the sulphuric acid plant*