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Troubleshooting Abrasive Flow Problems in Siphon Style Blast Cabinets

1. **Check the Media Hose for Damage or Obstruction**
   - Are there any holes worn in the siphon tube or hose? Replace if damaged.
   - Check hose routing. Use gentle bends or loops. Avoid kinking and sharp turns.
   - Is your hose run too long or too short?
   - Observe hose while blasting. If it collapses under vacuum, replace with new hose.

2. **Check the Blast Gun for Blockage or Wear**
   - Disconnect air supply and look inside blast gun for debris, blockages or worn parts.
   - Replace worn parts, or the entire gun, if need be.
   - Probe openings with a piece of stiff wire, small nail, or other tool to clear blockages.

3. **Check the Blast Nozzle**
   - Examine the blast nozzle for excessive wear or damage.
   - Ensure the nozzle is correct for the gun, fits properly and is properly sized for your blast media.
   - Replace the nozzle tip with a new one if nozzle is worn, damaged or ill-fitting.

4. **Check Air Pressure**
   - Most siphon style blasting is done around 60 to 90 PSI.
   - 70 to 80 PSI is good for many cabinets; depends on media, nozzle, gun & compressor.
   - Our metering valves allow you to get good flow at lower pressures: 40 to 70 PSI.
   - Too little pressure won't create enough suction to flow media. Too much pressure can cause problems as well.

5. **Ensure Air and Media are Dry**
   - Make sure blast media is dry.
   - Condensation in air lines and the blast gun are possible.
   - Consider using water traps and air-drying setups to keep air as dry as possible.

6. **Check your Blast Media Level**
   - Too much, or too little, media can cause issues.
   - Generally: 6 to 7 inches of blast media in the bottom of cabinet for metering valves or siphon tube setups.

7. **Check Siphon Hose Connections**
   - Ensure there are no leaks. We recommend hose clamps on both ends of the blast media hose.
   - Don't cover air gap or air holes in siphon tube with blast hose or media.

8. **Free the Siphon Tube**
   - Try unmounting the siphon tube and placing it standing down in the sand vertically.
   - Allows you to clear blockage easily and lets you adjust positioning quickly to promote better flow.

9. **Ensure Adequate Compressed Air Supply**
   - Is the air compressor powerful enough for abrasive blasting? Compressor SCFM/CFM output is most important.
     - You generally need 10 or more SCFM @ 90 PSI for consistent blasting.
   - Ensure adequate air flow is reaching blast equipment.
     - We recommend 3/8" or larger air hose.
     - Check for restrictions or blockages in air lines due to: debris, small air hose, faulty components, full or blocked water traps etc.

10. **Is Blast Media Worn Out?**
    - All blast media breaks down over time. It flows differently and performs less efficiently when worn out. Replace old spent media with new blast media appropriate for your situation.