

# CASE STUDY 4

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## Nova 3 Blasting Respirator

Nippon Sharyo  
Brian Terry

We needed a product that would keep employees comfortable and able to remain productive at the same time.



**About the Contributor:**  
**Mr. Brian Terry**  
**Nippon Sharyo**

Brian has over 10 years in experience in the paint operations industry, currently leading a team of operations at Nippon Sharyo just outside of Chicago. Nippon Sharyo Ltd. has been manufacturing railroad vehicles for more than 110 years. In addition to extensive penetration in the domestic Japanese market, Nippon Sharyo cars are currently running in Asia, the Middle East and North and South America. North American operations are located in their Rochelle, IL campus made up of three factories. This group is an innovator in the famous "Shinkansen" bullet train, maglev motive technology, new materials, and improvements in safety, passenger comfort and ease of maintenance.



**High Speed Rail, Shinkansen**



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Despite the harsh environment they are used in, our products are still in very good shape. They are built to last.

**Q:** Before you used the RPB Nova 3 Helmet, what challenges did you face?

**A:** Before using these Nova products we had used regular canvas hoods that leaked sand and would get very hot to the point where sweat would start fogging up inside the hood.

**Q:** What was the turning point? Was there a specific incident that drove you to change? When did you find out about RPB?

**A:** The turning point was when we decided we needed a product that would keep employees comfortable and able to remain productive at the same time.

**Q:** What has changed since you began using the RPB Nova 3 Helmet?

**A:** Now using the current products from RPB we can blast for hours and when we are finished we are not sweaty and worn out.

**Q:** What numbers can you put on your savings?

**A:** I would say that the Nova 3 saves up to 20% on labor time because the guys do not have to stop and clean off their lenses thanks to the tear off system which works great. Also, it has boosted morale because it makes an otherwise not so fun task bearable because it's like having air conditioning on hot summer days.

**Q:** If there is another company out there struggling with the challenges you faced before changing, what advice or recommendations would you give them?

**A:** My advice would be to anyone who is struggling with blasting is to try a proven system from RPB and reduce time and fatigue caused from using older methods. RPB products are very cost effective and over the course of three years using the Nova products we have been very comfortable and efficient. Also, despite the harsh environment they

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**20 % SAVED**  
The amount of labour time saved on average for an 8 hour day using a Nova 3.

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are used in, our products are still in very good shape. They are built to last. The guys that use these products will be very happy to have them and have an easier work day because of them.

**Q:** Our mission is to "protect you for life's best moments". In your own words, how do you feel we do that for yourself?

**A:** It's simple. RPB improves lives by making a job bearable that isn't enjoyable.