

CASE HISTORY

Restoration of One of the Most Important Artifacts Found in Adriatic Sea



DATE

2006 - 2010

CORTEC® REPRESENTATIVE

CorteCros d.o.o.

LOCATION

Mali Losinj, Croatia

PRODUCTS

EcoClean® VpCI®-422

PROBLEM

The antique bronze statue of an athlete, 192 cm tall, taken from sea bed near Island of Losinj in 1999, is the only large bronze artifact found in Adriatic Sea. It was assumed that it was thrown overboard during bad weather in the beginning of 1st century B.C. From the moment it was found all indications were that it is a masterpiece of ancient Greek bronze sculpture. The restoration was performed by Croatian, Belgian, Italian, Austrian, German, and US experts and it lasted nearly 10 years. Apoxyomenos has been exposed in numerous international museums, such as Musee de Louvre in Paris, British Museum in London, and the Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles.

APPLICATION

EcoClean® VpCI®-422 has been pretested to determine its effectiveness in removing metallic oxides and scale after the deposits of encrustations have been manually removed. It was of utmost importance that no detrimental effects were found to the surface of the bronze sculpture. VpCI®-422 was applied carefully to the entire statute and allowed to react for several hours followed by several rinses with deionized water.



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CONCLUSION

Cortec's EcoClean® VpCI®-422 solved a difficult and very sensitive problem of restoring the historic Hellenic sculpture. It was chosen to remove oxides and scale due to its mild nature and health and safety to people working on bringing this artifact to future generations of spectators.

