



CASE STUDY






Fire Restoration for a Food Processing Facility

Client Sector: Commercial

This case study highlights ATI Restoration's ability to deliver effective, timely, and transparent disaster response services.



Services

-  Water Damage Remediation
-  Fire Damage Remediation
-  Contents Cleaning
-  Electrical/Mechanical Cleaning
-  Lead, Asbestos, & Mold Abatement



Major Event Overview

SunWest Milling, a major rice processor in Sacramento, CA, faced a significant disaster when a fire broke out in one of its towers. The blaze led to an explosion, extensive smoke damage, and water damage from the firefighting efforts. The situation was further complicated by the release of asbestos fibers and mold growth. SunWest urgently needed a disaster recovery service that could not only manage the environmental and structural challenges, but also allow the facility to continue its critical rice production operations. ATI Restoration was chosen for the job due to its detailed and production-conscious proposal.

Project Size



Industrial Facility

6 Levels	170 Feet Tall
2 Towers	37,800 Square Feet



Crew

16 Members daily, plus safety leaders



Budget

\$2.8 Million





Minimize Disruption to Business

SunWest could not afford to halt production. As a rice milling company, the facility needed ATI to perform work while operations continued without interruption. To accommodate this, we developed a schedule that aligned with SunWest's production cycle. The team worked Monday through Thursday for general cleaning, leaving Friday for fine cleaning and Saturday-Sunday for painting.

There was also quite a bit of dust generated from the ongoing rice production, so ATI donned full PPE with gloves, face masks, and headlamps to perform services without halting production. We also set up HEPA-filtered air systems and negative air controls to ensure a clean and safe working environment while allowing production to continue.

FDA Regulated Site

Because SunWest is a food milling company, it was necessary that we complied with all FDA regulations throughout the job. This included using only FDA-approved products throughout the cleaning and restoration process, such as FDA-compliant PPE, chemicals, and paint.

Value-Added Services

Preventative Maintenance Education

ATI provided training to SunWest staff on preventative maintenance, recommending a monthly cleaning schedule.

Enhanced Cleanliness and Visibility

ATI's team painted the entire facility using a white gloss finish that made dust more visible and easier to clean. The addition of LED lighting further improved visibility and safety.

Safety Enhancements

ATI revised SunWest's safety plan, particularly for the manlift, which is still in use today. The team also provided comprehensive safety training, including written, verbal, and video resources.

Moving Around the Job Site

Throughout the job, ATI had no elevator access and very limited scaffolding, which meant we needed to devise alternative methods for moving personnel and equipment across the six levels. Our crew used a manlift to move around the facility and an independent hoist system for equipment. For cleaning and painting, ladders and safety rigging were employed in the tall shafts, ensuring both efficiency and safety.

Results



On Time & Under Budget

The project was completed efficiently, saving both time and money.



Safety First

Zero OSHA violations throughout the entire process.



Uninterrupted Production

SunWest maintained full rice production, with no loss in productivity during the job.



Quality & Value

ATI's exceptional work and added services paved the way for a strong, long-term partnership with SunWest.

Conclusion

ATI's ability to tailor its services to the unique needs of the client, combined with its commitment to quality and innovation, not only solved the immediate crisis but also positioned SunWest for long-term success.