

PRESS RELEASE

## The new world of painting: 12<sup>th</sup> Dürr innovation show fully virtual for the first time

Bietigheim-Bissingen, November 9, 2021—From today, Dürr is presenting product innovations for automotive painting at its 12<sup>th</sup> innovation show. The event will last four days and be delivered in different time zones and languages. The innovations are designed to help both established manufacturers and small electric vehicle startups make their production more efficient, economical and resource-friendly. The Open House will be fully virtual for the first time, offering well over 1,000 participants from around the world a mix of presentations, interviews, and technical demonstrations. The paint shop of the future, developed by Dürr, will be at the center of the event until November 12. It has been designed such that cars will no longer be painted in rigid lines but rather in boxes that can work independently from one another.

"Flexibility, cost efficiency, and sustainability are the most important demands that manufacturers are placing on the painting process today. We meet these demands through our concept of the paint shop of the future," explains Dr. Jochen Weyrauch, Deputy CEO of Dürr AG—responsible for the paint systems and final assembly business and CEO of Dürr AG as from January 1, 2022.

Based on this concept, the roughly 120 work stages in an automotive paint shop take place in stations or smaller sections—in parallel and accurately timed for the requirements of the individual car body. The adaptable layout makes it easy to expand capacities and enables manufacturers to send a greater number of vehicle types through the painting process—ideally, even individual items can be handled while production is underway.

## **Intelligent flexibility**

Automated guided vehicles (AGVs) are used to supply the individual stations with car bodies at the right time. Dürr's **Eco**ProFleet is the first AGV specially developed for paint shops and can be seen in action at the Open House.

Dürr Aktiengesellschaft Corporate Communications & Investor Relations Carl-Benz-Str. 34 74321 Bietigheim-Bissingen Germany

Phone +49 7142 78-1785 Fax +49 7142 78-1716

corpcom@durr.com www.durr-group.com



Dürr will present a new, modular system design for pretreatment, where car bodies have dirt particles removed and receive their anti-corrosive coating. The design is based on standardized chambers instead of dip tanks that are arranged one after the other. This is not only more flexible but also saves a lot of space.

For the painting process itself, Dürr will present its patent-pending **Eco**ProBooth paint booth. It is used for painting both exterior and interior surfaces of cars. Until now, this has required two different booths between which the car bodies have had to be transported using conveyor technology.

Dürr has further developed its system for the two-tone painting of car bodies. Aside from saving carmakers time and energy, it also generates less waste. In this painting process, a robot applies the contrasting or accent color so accurately that no overspray is generated. This dispenses with the time-consuming process of masking the other car body areas. Thanks to the further development of the **Eco**PaintJet Pro, not only is it possible to apply the two-tone lines to car body roofs, which is on trend right now; the system also allows for vertical areas to be painted and for decorative colors to be applied.

The new **Eco**Bell4 ensures maximum quality. It applies paint accurately, using an even spray jet. Due to its faster color change times, it enables more cars to be painted in the same amount of time. Another big plus: The low consumption of paint and solvents lowers the emission of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) – another contribution toward sustainable production.

## Artificial intelligence for greater quality

Dürr's digital products ensure that the individual production stages are integrated smoothly. One example is the **DXQ**plant.analytics software. It uses artificial intelligence (AI) to analyze data from the painting process. This helps staff responsible for quality assurance to identify any connected issues at an early stage and prevent faults. Its feedback function enables continuous 'learning' of the AI algorithm. This makes predictions, for example on maintenance requirements and quality, increasingly accurate.

Images for this press release can be found here.

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The Dürr Group is one of the world's leading mechanical and plant engineering firms with extensive expertise in automation and digitalization/Industry 4.0. Its products, systems and services enable highly efficient and resource-saving manufacturing processes in different industries. The Dürr Group supplies sectors like the automotive industry, mechanical engineering, chemical, pharmaceutical, medical technology and woodworking industries. It generated sales of € 3.32 billion in 2020. The company has

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more than 17,500 employees and 120 business locations in 33 countries. Since February 2021, the majority-owned automation specialist Teamtechnik has also been part of the Group. The Group operates in the market with the brands Dürr, Schenck and HOMAG and with five divisions:

- Paint and Final Assembly Systems: paint shops as well as final assembly, testing and filling technology for the automotive industry, assembly and test systems for medical devices
- Application Technology: robot technologies for the automated application of paint, sealants and adhesives
- Clean Technology Systems: air pollution control, noise abatement systems and coating systems for battery electrodes
- Measuring and Process Systems: balancing equipment and diagnostic technology
- Woodworking Machinery and Systems: machinery and equipment for the woodworking industry

## Contact:

Dürr AG

Andreas Schaller / Mathias Christen
Corporate Communications & Investor Relations
Phone +49 7142 78-1785 / -1381

Fax +49 7142 78-1716

E-Mail corpcom@durr.com

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company despite the use of the same terminology. Further information regarding the alternative financial metrics used at Dürr AG can be found in our financial glossary on the web page.

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