Press release

Dürr realizes high automation paint shop for Ford in Mexico

**Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany,** August 31, 2021 – Dürr has built a high-tech paint shop for Ford in Hermosillo, Mexico, in order to accommodate a new vehicle that Ford will be producing. The new replacement paint shop is located next to the existing stamping and assembly plant. It makes clever use of local climatic conditions, targets modern technology, the latest digital solutions, and high painting quality.

The mechanical and plant engineering company, Dürr, constructed the entire paint shop for Ford Motor Company, which included low and high viscosity material supply systems, robotic paint and sealer application equipment, and other process automation technology. The layout of the paint shop is worth mentioning in detail in several respects. In addition to two painting booths for a three-wet process, Ford uses a dedicated booth for two-tone painting by masking. Arranging the two-tone coating separately creates flexibility and ensures highest efficiency of the conventional coating line.

Dürr’s **Eco**RP E033i painting robots perform the automatic exterior coating of primer, base, and clear coat in all painting booths. The approx. 2.5 meter long interior cargo areas are base-coated with Dürr’s state-of-the art **Eco**RP S153i swingarm robots. These are specially designed for painting commercial vehicles. With its highly mobile swingarm, the robot can easily reach surfaces several meters away as well as hard-to-reach areas in the interior. The modularity of this newest generation of robots allows for high flexibility and improved robustness. As for the two main 3-wet topcoat painting booths and the one two-tone booth, the customer has opted for the proven **Eco**Envirojet wet scrubber technology with its easy cleaning access and maintenance.

**Outside ovens take advantage of high temperatures**

Another distinctive detail of the plant takes advantage of Hermosillo’s high temperatures and dry weather during most of the year. Installed outdoors, the e-coat, sealing, two-tone, and topcoat Dürr **Ecopaint** ovens utilize the high ambient air temperature for a more energy efficient heating. The ovens are equipped with Dürr’s recuperative thermal oxidizer Oxi**.X** TR, which is an elimination system for volatile Organic compounds (VOC) and is the most efficient, cost-effective method of air purification. Designed as a U-turn layout, the modular ovens are located outside so the car bodies can leave the building, go through the ovens, and then return indoors.

**Digital solutions increase transparency**

Dürr's scope of supply also included the digital solutions **DXQ**plant.monitoring and **DXQ**equipment.analytics, providing greater visibility of factory and equipment data, while achieving significant downtime reduction. The analysis software, **DXQ**equipment.analytics for the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT), evaluates all robot and process data; traceable down to the millisecond, faults are quickly identified, and rectified. The technological highlight is a streaming analytics application for real-time data analysis.

**Before color comes into play**

Dürr installed the phosphate and electro dipcoating tanks equipped with **Ecopaint** PT/EC pendulum system as well as the modular anode control **Eco**DC MACS. The modular design of this anode control protects the system from failures. Due to multiple rectifiers, the system allows for an individual setting of voltage, or current profiles, for each car body type; thus providing for a maximum impact to the coating process.

The sealing line includes manual and automated zones. Four **Eco**RS 30 L16 sealing robots, and two **Eco**RS 16 overhead handling robots are installed in the liquid-applied sound deadener (LASD) zone, while the underbody sealing (UBS) zone is equipped with two **Eco**RS 16. The robots ensure a safe, reliable performance achieved through strategically located sensors that help to avoid errors and collisions.

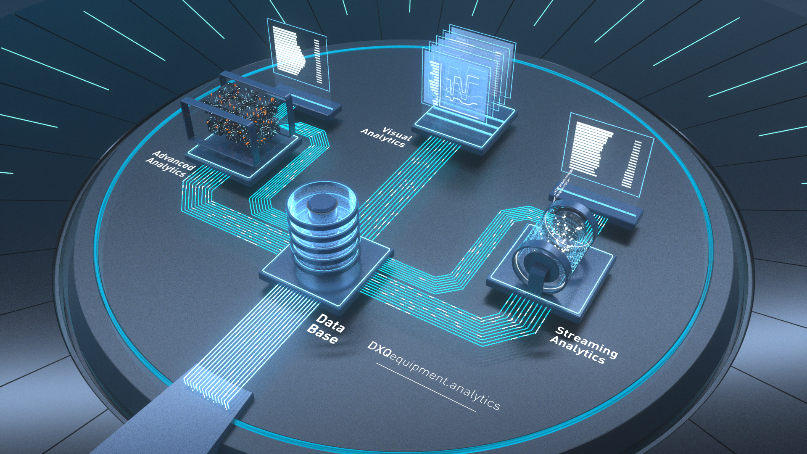
The project in Hermosillo represents the largest order that Ford has given to Dürr in Mexico. “We are proud that Ford has given us the opportunity to realize highly efficientconcepts, and cutting-edge technologies from Dürr,” states Sandro Picchio, CEO of Dürr Mexico. “We support Ford´s production process with the highest quality standards, the most cost-effective units, and lowest environmental impact.”

Pictures

The following pictures are available for download [here](https://www.durr.com/fileadmin/durr.com/06_Media/01_News/2021/Files/duerr-ford-hermosillo-en.zip).



Picture 1: Paint robots **Eco**RP of the newest generation by Dürr in manufacturing.



Picture 2: The software **DXQ**equipment.analytics monitors paint booth online and thus optimizes plant availability and product quality.

**About Dürr**

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 17,000 employees and 121 business locations in 33 countries. Since February 2021, the majority-owned automation specialist Teamtechnik has also been part of the Group. The Dürr 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

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