Press release

Dürr‘s EcoPaintJet Pro impresses with innovative technology and sustainability

**Dürr wins 2022 Automotive News PACE Award**

Bietigheim-Bissingen, September 21, 2022 – Maximum precision paired with outstanding energy efficiency: The EcoPaintJet Pro can paint complex car body surfaces without overspray and apply individual design elements without masking, fully automatically and in a resource-saving manner. These features convinced an independent panel of judges to award Dürr the Automotive News PACE Award for its innovative overspray-free application technology solution.

“We are very excited that this technology has been recognized as a game-changing innovation and we look forward to building on our successes in the application technology space with more cutting-edge solutions,” said Alex Weiten, Vice President Application Technology at Dürr in North America. “The topic of sustainability has reached a tipping point in the automotive industry, and the **Eco**PaintJet Pro will enable our customers to meet their environmental goals today and for years to come.”

**EcoPaintJet Pro** improves sustainability

The **Eco**PaintJet Pro’s innovative process shows its strengths not only in terms of possible design diversity and lower production costs but in sustainability improvements to individual paint shops. Among other things, the **DXQ**3D.onsite software provides support here: an initial measurement detects and compensates for any inaccuracies in the conveyor system or the body shop. A second sensor mounted on the robot measures the deviation of the car body to be painted from the reference pattern. The robot controller adjusts the painting paths in real-time. The speed and tilt angle of the applicator is controlled so that the paint is always applied evenly, and there is no overspray or need for masking. This saves more than 1.5 million square meters of film and 2.2 million meters of masking tape in a standard production line that paints 110,000 car bodies per year, plus a lot of manual work. Another advantage is that the new process requires up to 30% less energy than the conventional method. These benefits are attracting a great deal of attention from car manufacturers. As a result, Dürr has already won its first order for the **Eco**PaintJet Pro from a major American OEM.

The 28th annual PACE Awards were presented by Automotive News. The competition was open to suppliers that contribute products, processes, materials, or services directly to car or truck manufacturing. The Automotive News PACE Award is the global industry benchmark for innovation.



Figure 1: Dürr's **Eco**PaintJet Pro: PACE Award Winner 2022. From left to right: Frank Herre, Senior Manager Development Application/Process, Alex Weiten, Vice President Application Technology, Rick Ostin, Director Sales and R&D, Application Technology.



Figure 2: The **Eco**PaintJet Pro is also capable of painting vertical surfaces without masking or overspray.

**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 € 3.54 billion in 2021. The company has around 18,100 employees and 120 business locations in 33 countries. 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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