Press release

EcoPaintJet Pro convinces the jury of the "DIE OBERFLÄCHE" innovation award

**Dürr wins Surface Technology Award 2022**

Bietigheim-Bissingen, 22 June 2022 – Maximum precision paired with outstanding energy efficiency: The EcoPaintJet Pro is capable of painting very complex car body surfaces without overspray and applying individual design elements - without masking, fully automatically and in a resource-saving manner. These features also convinced the jury of the innovation award "DIE OBERFLÄCHE" organized by the Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation, which was presented at SurfaceTechnology GERMANY.

“We at Dürr are very proud of the almost 20-strong team, which has been putting great effort and dedication into this invention since 2008. The innovative strength of our employees is the basis for our company’s success,” says Dr. Jochen Weyrauch, CEO of Dürr AG. “The **Eco**PaintJet Pro reflects a key focus in our development work: sustainability.”

Improving sustainability

The innovative process shows its strengths not only in terms of possible design diversity and lower production costs. The invention can also improve the sustainability of individual paintshops. 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 are controlled so that the paint is always applied evenly and there is no overspray and no need for masking. In a standard production line that paints 110,000 car bodies per year, this saves more than 1.5 million square meters of film and 2.2 million meters of masking tape every year plus a lot of manual work. Another advantage is that the new process requires up to 30% less energy than the conventional method.

The Surface Technology Award has been run by the Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation since 2012. For the top position, technologies must convince in the criteria innovation leap, sustainability, enabler technology and industrial feasibility.

Permanent guest at awards ceremonies

Thanks to its innovative strength, the **Eco**PaintJet Pro has already won several prizes in Germany and abroad - including the German Innovation Award. It was also recently a finalist for the prestigious European Inventor Award, which is organized by the European Patent Office.



Figure 1: 1st place for Dürr's EcoPaintJet Pro at the Surface Technology Award 2022.



Figure 2: The EcoPaintJet Pro is also capable of painting vertical surfaces without masking and without 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 17,800 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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