



J. Wagner GmbH
a Member of WAGNER

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Press release
January 2026

WAGNER at PaintExpo 2026: Sustainable & smart solutions for the coating process

WAGNER will once again be impossible to miss at the world's leading trade fair, with the largest booth covering 200 square meters. The latest highlights and developments in liquid and powder coating will be presented, complemented by a wide range of services and digital offerings. Under the motto “**Better for you**”, the focus will be on solutions that make the work of coaters easier - through intuitive operation, resource-saving use of materials, optimized processes, and greater automation for higher productivity.

One highlight in the **liquid sector** is the TOPFINISH Bell 2 system: with the new generation of high-speed rotation atomizers in combination with the modular WACON Spray control system, high-speed rotation technology has never been easier. Visitors can also experience the innovative flushing process Activeflush, among other highlights. Individual industry solutions in collaboration with Walther Pilot are another focus, as is the topic of enamel coating.

In **powder coating**, the focus is on highly efficient solutions and digital features – from manual applications to high-end automation. Flowsense, the automatic control of powder quantity, has already proven itself in practice. Visitors can interactively experience how this technology significantly increases the process efficiency of powder coating systems. The Sprint 2 manual system features exciting innovations that make daily work even easier for manual users. Enamel coating also plays a role in the powder section.

There will be various **live demonstrations** at the booth. In addition to highlights in liquid and powder coating, WAGNER will also be presenting exciting new features of the COATIFY IoT platform. This tool keeps users informed about the current process status of their coating system, at any time and from anywhere. As an additional highlight, visitors can also experience a special magical surprise – it's really worth stopping by!

You can find WAGNER here: Hall 3, booth 3330.

More information: <https://www.wagner-group.com/en/industry/paintexpo/>



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Pictures:



The Sprint 2 manual system makes manual coating tasks easier with its assistance functions.



The new generation of high-speed rotation atomizers, TOPFINISH Bell 2, combined with the modular control unit WACON Spray, makes high-speed rotation easier than ever before.



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Media Information
April 13, 2026

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Walther Spritz- und Lackiersysteme GmbH Becomes Part of J. Wagner GmbH

United under one strong brand +++ customers benefit from a comprehensive portfolio of surface coating technology

Markdorf, Germany // In fiscal year 2026/27, which began on February 1, 2026, longtime WAGNER subsidiary Walther Spritz- und Lackiersysteme GmbH will become part of J. Wagner GmbH and will operate under the globally strong WAGNER brand in future. Worldwide, the WAGNER brand stands for innovative technologies for coating surfaces in the DIY, professional trades, and industrial sectors. WAGNER's industrial customers benefit from an almost complete range of technologies for industrial surface coating. Supported by WAGNER's global sales network and the international recognition of the WAGNER brand, the former WALTHER business is well positioned to continue its successful international growth. Michael Müller, CEO of the WAGNER Group and Managing Director of J. Wagner GmbH, views the merger as "the next step in WAGNER's development, with the goal of reducing complexity, leveraging synergies, and sustainably strengthening the future of the Group."

The three German sites — Markdorf, Wuppertal, and Struthütten — will build on their respective strengths and work even more closely together. Ralf Mosbacher, previously Managing Director of Walther Spritz- und Lackiersysteme GmbH, has also been appointed to the management team of J. Wagner GmbH as of February 1, 2026. He will remain the main point of contact for the former WALTHER business and will drive its further development and integration into J. Wagner GmbH.

Ralf Mosbacher has led Walther Spritz- und Lackiersysteme GmbH, which currently employs nearly 150 people, since 2020. During this period, he has successfully developed the company and its sites in Wuppertal and Struthütten, while increasingly integrating their expertise into the WAGNER Group's collaborative operating model. For example, the Struthütten site serves as a competence center for laser and welding operations within the WAGNER Group and manufactures cyclones for powder coating. In addition to his corporate responsibilities, Ralf Mosbacher is actively involved in the industry association VDMA and has been a member of the board of the VDMA Surface Technology Association for several years.



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Ralf Mosbacher, J. Wagner GmbH

Photo: WAGNER

About WAGNER

J. Wagner GmbH, based in Markdorf (Bodenseekreis), is a member of the WAGNER Group. WAGNER is one of the world's leading manufacturers of equipment and systems for the application of powder and wet coatings, paints, and other liquid materials. Founded in 1947, the company has a long-standing reputation for setting industry standards and delivering high-quality, innovative, and user-friendly solutions for industrial customers, professional craftspeople, and DIY users.

The WAGNER Group is part of Wagner International AG, headquartered in Altstätten, Switzerland. With approximately 1,800 employees, 20 operating companies, and around 400 agencies, WAGNER is represented worldwide. The Group is owned by the Josef Wagner Foundations, which pursue exclusively non-profit and charitable objectives.

More information at www.wagner-group.com



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WAGNER Expands into South America

Coating technology specialist opens a new subsidiary in Brazil

Altstätten/Sao Paulo || WAGNER, a global leader in coating technology, has established J. Wagner Brasil Ltda. The new subsidiary, based in Campinas near Sao Paulo, Brazil, is strategically positioned in view of the anticipated economic growth across South America. *"With our new company in Brazil, we are strengthening our local presence, enabling rapid respond to the needs of our South American customers, and delivering our distinctive WAGNER service,"* says Christian Pustlauk, Vice President Europe & South America at WAGNER.

Michael Müller, one of the two CEOs of the WAGNER Group, emphasizes the broader significance of a establishing a dedicated company: *"J. Wagner Brasil Ltda. represents a clear commitment to the South American market and underlines the strategic importance of Brazil as the sixth largest economy worldwide and the largest on the continent."* Sao Paulo´s location provides excellent access to South American markets.

WAGNER has been active in Brazil for more than 30 years through local distributors and is a leading supplier in powder coating. The company is also recognized as reference in liquid coating and the DIY segment. From the new base in Sao Paulo, WAGNER will serve partners and customers across the industrial coating sector. Exceptional on-site customer service, strong collaboration, and innovative WAGNER products are the top priorities, while further strengthening/reinforcing regional partnerships.

The Campinas facility features a state-of-the-art showroom for application testing, efficient local logistics for critical components, and specialized technical support for the transportation, agricultural and furniture industries.

J. Wagner Brasil Ltda. is led by Managing Director André Da Poian, a mechanical engineer with an MBA in marketing. With more than 30 years of experience in surface coating and several years in WAGNERs South American operations, he brings deep industry expertise to his new role.



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André Da Poian, Managing Director J. Wagner Brasil Ltda.

Foto: J. Wagner Brasil Ltda.

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Press release
January 2026

TOPFINISH Bell 2 & WACON Spray: Compact package makes high-speed rotation atomization easier than ever

WAGNER is expanding its Bell family: The modular system solution consisting of the TF Bell 2 high-speed rotation atomizer and the WACON Spray control unit creates a powerful package with excellent atomization that makes coating with high-speed rotation easier than ever. The TF Bell 2 system is suitable both for process-optimized series production and for flexible production environments with frequently changing requirements.

High-speed rotation atomization is the supreme discipline in surface technology: It combines particularly fine atomization with very high transfer efficiency and high working speed. The technology is primarily used in series production, for example for automotive and plastic components, in wood and furniture coating or glass coating. Despite these convincing advantages, high-speed rotation atomizers have often been limited to high-end applications that require special skills in system planning, set-up and productive use.

With the TF Bell 2 system, WAGNER makes the high-speed rotation process easily accessible beyond high-end applications. Due to the reduced effort required for setting, operating, monitoring and maintaining the coating system, the solution is not only aimed at experienced users, but also at companies working with high-speed rotation atomizers for the first time. Together with the existing high-speed rotation atomizers (TF Bell 1 and ECH variants), WAGNER now offers a comprehensive bell portfolio that also enables special applications, e.g. 2K coatings with integrated mixer or with external charging for water-based coatings.

TF Bell 2: Efficient atomization with innovative air deflector ring

The TF Bell 2 works with very low air and material consumption. Depending on the material, flow rate and workpiece geometry, it achieves a transfer efficiency of up to 90%. Newly developed air deflector rings with slot-shaped openings distribute the air and thus the material with particularly fine atomization and very evenly on the workpiece. The TF Bell 2 therefore achieves excellent coating results for a wide range of materials and workpieces. The bell cup size and serration can be specifically adapted to the workpiece shape, size and coating material. The spray jet width can be precisely adjusted and covers a range from 80 to 800 millimeters.



Integrated high voltage and a wide range of applications

The TF Bell 2 has an integrated high-voltage cascade with an output of 8 watts, making it suitable for all common solvent applications as well as for water-based paint applications with smaller paint kitchens (up to approx. 60 liters). For applications with higher power requirements, such as water-based paint applications with larger paint kitchens or larger systems, e.g. in wheel coating, an external cascade can be used as an alternative.

There are different configuration options available depending on the production environment: The TF RobotBell 2 variant is suitable for robot applications, while the TF Bell 2S is suitable for linear axes, reciprocators and installations without movement technology. Thanks to the high modularity, configurations without high voltage are also possible, e.g. for highly viscous materials. An adapter can be used to quickly convert from the bell to an airspray gun without the need to change any hoses. This makes the system suitable for automated series processes as well as for customer-specific application scenarios.

Fast color changes and service-friendly design

A modular, expandable valve block allows a second color to be added. After flushing the first color circuit, the next color is immediately available so that color changes are possible within a few seconds. Robust valves ensure a long service life. The innovative quick-change system with strain relief makes it easier to replace hoses and cables. The removable three-part air deflector ring can be cleaned particularly efficiently and thus enables years of reliable work. In addition, the one-piece bell plate prevents paint deposits inside the bell and thus also contributes to trouble-free coating.

WACON Spray: Intuitive control and flexible system architecture

Whether beginner or professional: With WACON Spray, the TF Bell 2 is quickly ready for use and easy to operate - without prior programming. All relevant bell parameters (including turbine speed, bearing air, high voltage, shaping air) are controlled centrally via a 7-inch-touchscreen. Parameter settings can be saved as recipes and called up quickly when required.

The WACON Spray control concept is designed as a modular system and can be flexibly adapted to different production environments. It consists of several components that can be individually combined and flexibly assembled.

The stand-alone WACON Spray device has touchscreen operation and is suitable for 19-inch rack or desktop installation. WACON Extension is an extension box without a HMI. Up to two WAMOD plug-in modules can be installed in both housings. These modules regulate the high voltage, turbine speed and volume flow of atomizing air. The range of functions extends from basic to advanced features for high-end



users, while only the components that are actually needed are installed. Subsequent adaptations are possible at any time - with minimal installation effort thanks to communication via the WAGNER bus. WACON Spray offers numerous interfaces for integration into external control systems, including digital and analog inputs and outputs or Profinet fieldbus. The modular design allows different operating modes. With the help of additional function modules, more complex systems can also be implemented in which up to four bells can be controlled simultaneously.

Stand-alone function modules for PLC connection

The stand-alone WACAS function modules are available as an alternative variant. They can be connected directly to higher-level control systems (e.g. PLC or robot control). The electrical connection is made conveniently via modern fieldbuses, minimizing the cabling effort. Their compact design makes them ideal for mounting in robot arms or in control cabinets with limited space.

Volume flow-based air control for maximum process reliability

WACON Spray uses innovative volumetric flow control instead of conventional pressure control to adjust the shaping airs. Being no longer dependent on hose lengths or diameters, recipes can be transferred between different systems or remain unchanged when the system is converted – a major time saving and a big step towards superior process stability.

Conclusion

The TF Bell 2 system combines highly efficient high-speed rotation atomization with an intelligent, modular control system. The system delivers excellent surface quality, reduces material and air consumption and simplifies operation, service and integration into existing systems. At the same time, it meets the latest and highest safety standards with global certification. This makes it a future-proof solution that allows companies to design their coating systems to achieve highly efficient and outstanding results for years to come.

More information at:

<https://www.wagner-group.com/en/industry/products/liquid-coating/product/topfinish-robotbell2-bell2s/>

<https://www.wagner-group.com/en/industry/products/liquid-coating/product/wacon-spray/>



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Pictures:



Left: TF Bell 2S for linear axes, reciprocators and fixed installations

Right: TF RobotBell 2 for robot applications



WACON Spray control unit: Basic device with intuitive touchscreen operation



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Press release
February 2025

Sprint 2 Expert: Magical results with the master solution for manual coating tasks

As a new member of the Sprint 2 product family, the Sprint 2 Expert manual powder coating system offers unique additional functions for special requirements. Clever assistance functions such as the WAGNER Wizard and DSO (Digital Surface Optimizer) as well as process documentation options make every user an expert in manual coating in no time at all.

In spring 2024, WAGNER launched the Sprint 2 manual system - a new generation of manual powder coating systems with innovative components and assistance functions. The Sprint 2 Expert now completes the product family. Compared to the Sprint 2 with its classic range of functions, the new variant offers additional intelligent features for even greater convenience in manual coating..

The perfect recipe as if by magic

All relevant parameters for the coating job are set via the WACON Sprint 2 Expert control unit with 7-inch touchscreen. The intuitive menu navigation also offers recipe management, error history, operating hours and maintenance counters as well as user management. The highlight of the control system is the WAGNER Wizard: With the intelligent coating assistant, even inexperienced users can find the right recipe for every coating job. In 5 simple steps, you select the workpiece geometry, size, coating structure, desired coating thickness and type of powder, and the Wizard uses these parameters to determine the ideal recipe. So that you can get started straight away, it also provides recommendations for suitable accessories (e.g. nozzle type, nozzle extension) and the required gun distance.

With the DSO (Digital Surface Optimizer) assistance function - which is also integrated in the Sprint 2 - overcharge effects such as orange peel or edge build-up can be reduced at the touch of a button. This advantage is particularly relevant for decorative coatings on complex components or with demanding powder coatings.

New injector offers numerous advantages

Just like the Sprint 2, the Sprint 2 Expert also features the new Quick-Link injector. Optimized nozzle geometries reduce the air requirement and hose diameter needed, resulting in a significantly softer powder cloud at a lower speed. This results in a wide range of applications - from fine, decorative coatings



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on small parts to corrosion protection for large components. The injector also speeds up the cleaning and color change process: all powder and air hoses can be detached in one easy step using the Quick-Link coupling. The integrated scraper ring in the swivel arm scrapes the powder off the outside of the lance. For even faster color changes - in less than 30 seconds - a special cleaning set with automated internal cleaning of the suction lance is available as an option for the Sprint 2 Expert.

Process documentation made easy

A powder scale under the base plate is used for precise monitoring of the powder consumption. This scale shows the weight in the powder box and automatically sets measuring points, which are documented in a logbook with the active user, selected recipe and coating period. This allows relevant coating data to be bundled and evaluated. The user can download all process data from the control unit via USB for further processing. Additional interfaces are optionally available for the control unit to enable connection to higher-level systems, robot technology or a cloud solution - such as the COATIFY information and management platform.

The right solution for every application

The multifunctional head module of the Sprint 2 Expert with the standardized perforated plate structure offers dust-protected storage areas and hanging options for tools and accessories. This keeps everything tidy and within easy reach. The manual system can also be quickly upgraded to a double system with two guns. The head module offers space for the installation of a second control unit.

Both the Sprint 2 and the Sprint 2 Expert are available in two versions - for powder feeding directly from the original box (Sprint 2 Expert B) or a 60-liter container (Sprint 2 Expert H). Conversions between the two versions are possible.

The mobile cup gun case set (Sprint 2 Expert CG) is suitable for individual parts and small quantities as well as for laboratory and development purposes. It is easy to set up anywhere and can be operated directly from the case. The 3-liter table set (Sprint 2 Expert T) includes a compact vibrating table with a 3-liter fluid container attachment, a Hi-Coat injector and 9 mm hose in addition to the control unit and manual gun. This setup is used to achieve extremely fine coatings - e.g. in laboratory environments, for special applications such as the non-destructive testing of cast parts or for small parts with very high surface quality requirements (e.g. rim finishing).

A large selection of accessories completes the range.



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Find more information on: go.wagner-group.com/sprint-2

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Pictures:



The Sprint 2 Expert manual system is available in two versions - for feeding powder directly from the original box (left picture) or alternatively from a 60-liter container (right picture).

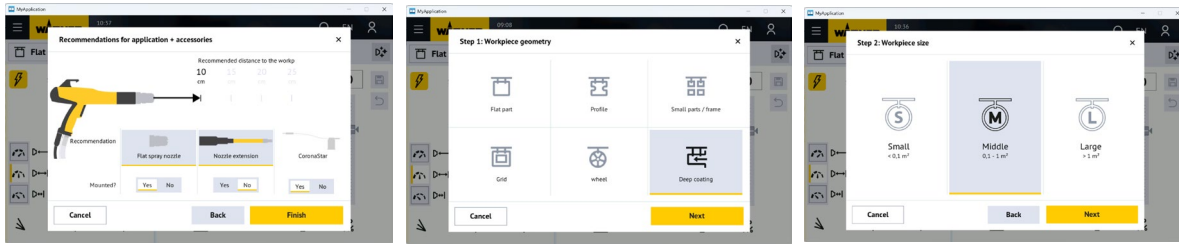


Control unit WACON Sprint 2 Expert with WAGNER Wizard coating assistant

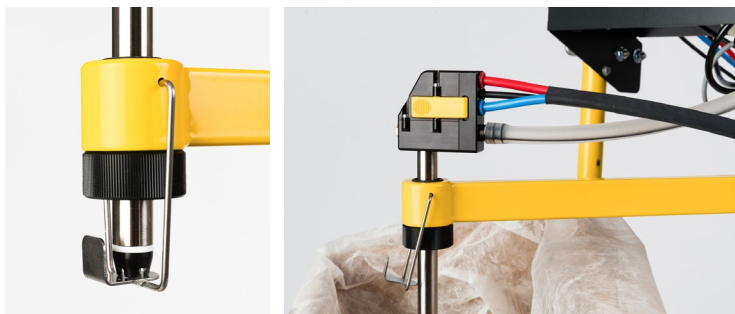


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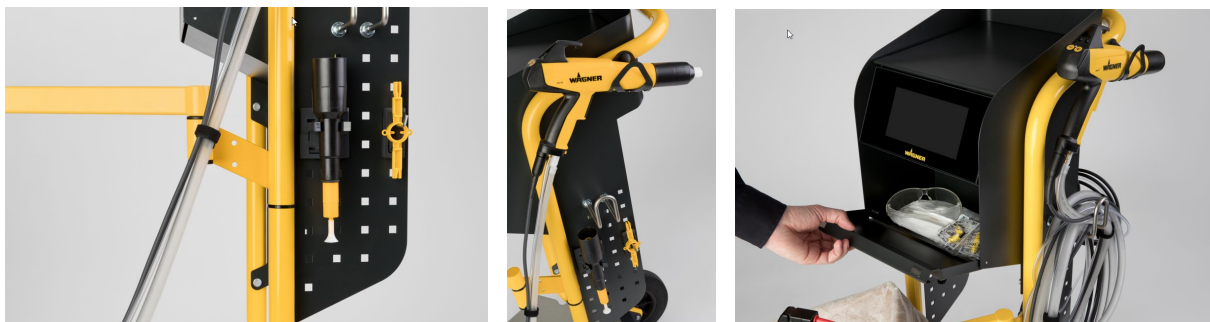


The WAGNER Wizard guides the user to the right recipe in just a few steps.



Left: Scraper ring in the swivel arm

Right: Quick-Link injector with Quick-Link coupling for fast cleaning and color change



Multifunctional head module of the manual system with storage areas and hanging options for tools and accessories



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Left: Mobile cup gun case set (Sprint 2 Expert CG), suitable for coating individual parts and very small quantities
Right: 3-liter table set (Sprint 2 Expert T), suitable for extremely fine coatings for special applications

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Press release
April 2024

Flowsense sets new standards: Constant layer thicknesses thanks to automatic control of the powder quantity

With Flowsense, WAGNER is launching a ground-breaking technology that measures and fully automatically controls the powder output. The result: Consistently high-quality results and reduced powder consumption thanks to constant layer thicknesses. This makes Flowsense a quantum leap in powder application.

As part of the Flowsense technology, each individual feeding element is equipped with high-precision measuring sensors. The smart system constantly monitors the powder flow and compares the powder quantity with the target values. Flowsense can even measure the powder output in g/min and individually for each gun. The exact dosing of the powder quantity can be saved in the recipe and is permanently reproducible, without any manual corrections, which would be necessary without Flowsense.

High quality & savings thanks to constant layer thicknesses

In powder centers without Flowsense, the user has to monitor the powder quantity himself in order to be able to readjust it in good time. The so-called sawtooth effect occurs to varying degrees and leads to uneven powder output during production. With Flowsense, however, the output parameters are adjusted independently and deviations are corrected automatically. The system even compensates for influences on the output, e.g. caused by fluidization and fluctuating powder levels. The sawtooth effect is smoothed out by the control to a micro-sawtooth that can no longer be measured. The powder output can be adjusted much better to the target layer thickness, which in turn minimizes the safety margin. This enables significant powder savings. Constant coating thicknesses within certain limits are also an important criterion for certification by quality associations for industrial coating.

Extended service life of wear parts

Another advantage is predictive maintenance: As Flowsense permanently monitors the powder flow, blockages, for example, are detected in good time and rejects are avoided. In combination with the injector technology, Flowsense also provides information on the current status of the collector nozzles. This is clearly visualized on the touchscreen of the powder center in a traffic light system. This allows the user to keep an eye on the exact system status at all times and provides continuous information on



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whether the coating can achieve the desired quality. This allows the user to replace the collector nozzles in no time at all and exactly when it is actually necessary.

Simple operation & integration with IoT

Flowsense is configured and operated on the powder center's touchscreen with intuitive user guidance. Flowsense works mainly in the background and automatically displays relevant information. The smart system will also be integrated into WAGNER's COATIFY information and management platform, which can be used to intelligently visualize your own coating system. With detailed knowledge about the system status and information about which recipe can currently be reliably produced, the user can control production in a cost-optimized and sustainable way.

Flowsense is also convincing in practice: WAGNER customers who are already using the system can confirm the benefits across the board. The automated powder quantity control significantly reduces the workload of coating employees. Customers also report immediately recognizable quality improvements.

Find more information at:

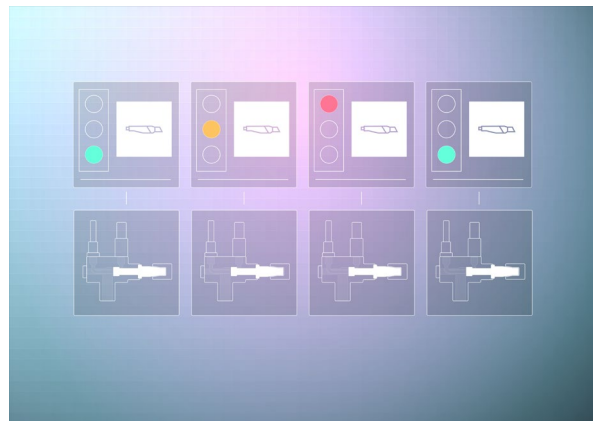
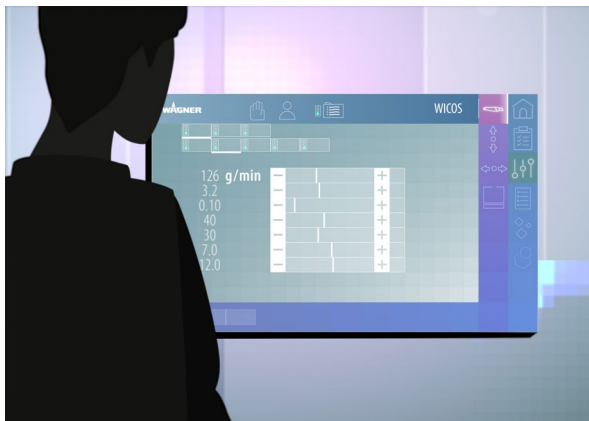
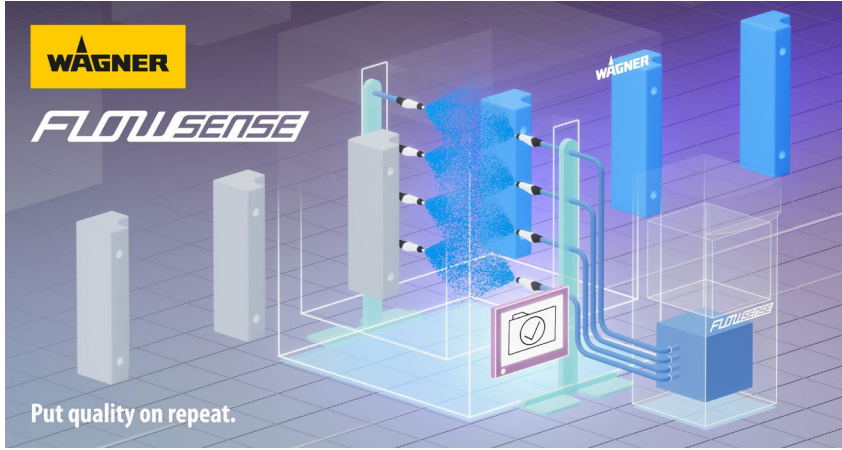
go.wagner-group.com/flowsense



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Pictures:



The status of each individual gun or injector is clearly displayed on the touchscreen in a traffic light system. The request for the next wear part change only appears when it is actually necessary.



Reference report January 2026

Elevators that save space – and a coating line that saves resources

The Swedish company Motala Hissar AB is a leading manufacturer of space-efficient elevators and platform lifts for indoor use. What started in 1972 with goods lifts has grown into a global company with more than 10,000 delivered units to date and around 60% of production shipped abroad. All mechanical parts are produced in-house in Motala, Sweden. Their lifts are known for smart engineering, clean Scandinavian design, and excellent accessibility. And because quality surfaces are part of that promise, the coating process plays a crucial role.

Why the old system had reached its limit

Before the upgrade, Motala Hissar was running an aging powder system with a steel booth. High powder waste and limited automation were major problems, and frequent color changes added further challenges. The new system needed to deliver highly efficient coating of elevator parts, lower powder consumption, and fast, reliable color changes.

WAGNER's PXS powder center combined with the Flowsense technology stood out as the most advanced automatic solution. The new line was installed in summer 2025.

Smart powder management with PXS and Flowsense

Motala Hissar chose an S-Line powder system with an S-Cube booth. This booth model offers maximum flexibility and is designed for demanding applications with a high automation level. A perfect match for large elevator components. Eight PEA-X1 automatic guns apply the powder with high precision. A manual workstation adds flexibility for pre- or post-touchups on especially complex parts.

The compact PXS powder center manages powder preparation, supply and fast color changes. The complete system control is integrated into the cabinet. With the WICOS control and operating system, Motala Hissar can monitor the whole system performance in detail. The Data Hub interface of the PXS additionally provides raw process data for deeper production analysis.

Flowsense is integrated into the PXS. This innovative technology automatically measures and regulates the powder quantity: Each feeding element has built-in sensors that measure the output in grams per minute. The system automatically adjusts the powder flow to the target value and corrects deviations. The result: constant coating thicknesses and less powder consumption.



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With Flowsense, Motala Hissar can now see exactly how much powder is being used. Coating thicknesses stay consistent from batch to batch, making quality more predictable. The technology pays off directly: Powder consumption has been reduced by 15-20% compared to the previous system.

Another benefit is maintenance transparency: The status of each injector is clearly displayed on the touchscreen in a traffic light system. Necessary wear part replacements are automatically recommended only when truly necessary, which means that Motala Hissar can extend the service life of the nozzles and reduce operating costs. In fact, with the previous system, they had to replace nozzles once per month – now, thanks to Flowsense, the system is running up to 4-5 months with the same nozzles.

Cutting energy use with the EEP

Like all WAGNER powder systems, the new line at Motala Hissar is equipped with the Energy Efficiency Package (EEP): The flow-optimized design of the monocyclone reduces pressure losses, allowing the final filter to run with a smaller fan motor. This has reduced energy consumption by 15-20%.

The specially shaped pipes reduce powder deposits and wear and improve the powder recovery - a small detail with big long-term impact. With Flowsense and the EEP, the new system significantly reduces powder waste. This has a positive impact on the environment, as generally 5-6% CO₂ emissions can be saved per 1 kg powder.

Conclusion: A high-efficiency line that delivers

Motala Hissar's new powder coating system brings together speed, precision, and sustainability in a way their old setup simply couldn't. Large elevator parts and frequent color changes can now be handled with ease. The PXS powder center with Flowsense gives the team full control over powder usage and delivers reproducible, high-quality surfaces. The Energy Efficiency Package reduces energy consumption and boosts recovery performance. It's easy to see that the upgrade has been a major strategic step forward for the company.

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Pictures:



PXS powder center with Flowsense technology for the digital measurement of the powder output



WICOS control system for the monitoring of the coating process



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Large elevator parts are coated in the powder booth



Final filter of the new powder coating line



Reference report
November 2025

VBG Modernizes Its Coating Line – Four Booths Become One

VBG Truck Equipment in Vänersborg, a manufacturer of trailer couplings among other products, started its own powder coating operation back in 2001. After 24 years of service, the coating line no longer met modern standards, and spare parts had become increasingly difficult to obtain. What used to be a process spread across four booths has now been replaced by a single, fully modernized booth — installed over the summer shutdown. The result: easier color changes, improved coating quality, and lower powder consumption.

A System That Meets Automotive Standards

VBG's coating plant already met the stringent requirements of the automotive industry, with processes including blasting, zinc-manganese phosphating, e-coating, and powder coating. As part of the modernization phase, the focus was on upgrading the powder booth and its associated equipment. A new powder curing oven had been installed earlier, and a new oven for e-coating is also on the way.

Growing Demands for More Colors

The old system was built with four booths, each designed for a fixed color. Today, customers are requesting a broader color range — VBG now works with five colors, two of which previously had to be applied without powder recovery. That led to excessive powder consumption and long color-change times. With the new booth, color changes now take just three to seven minutes.

“Being able to switch colors quickly and recover powder for all colors will save us around 1,500 kilograms of paint annually. That reduces our environmental footprint and lowers costs,” says Lars Pettersson, Production Manager at VBG.

A Year in the Making

The procurement process began last summer, with three suppliers invited to tender. During the fall, two of them carried out test coatings on representative products. In the end, VBG selected WAGNER as its supplier.

“VBG chose to complement the booth and guns with an IPS Coating Center for fast and easy color changes. IPS is a fully automatic powder center that uses SFT (Smart Feeding Technology) to ensure a consistent powder feed. They also added our Energy Efficiency Package and combined it with a frequency-



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controlled final filter motor, which both reduces the energy consumption of the system,” explains Johan Lanka from WAGNER.

The new booth and all related equipment were installed during the summer shutdown. The project went smoothly, and production resumed right on schedule.

“We had built up a buffer of critical components just in case, but we didn’t have to use it,” Lars adds.

Less Touch-Up Painting

Previously, VBG used tribo-charged powder guns. These have now been replaced by electrostatic guns. “With the new guns, the need for touch-up work has dropped significantly. For instance, we used to manually touch up the inside of U-beams to reach the correct layer thickness — now that’s no longer necessary,” says machine operator Robin Nyberg.

In addition to the booth and guns, WAGNER delivered an integrated powder system that provides better process feedback and monitoring.

“We now have much better control over powder consumption for each batch, which makes cost calculations much easier,” says Production Engineer Anna Edlund.

24-Hour Turnaround

The Vänersborg factory has two production flows — one for cast components and one for laser-cut and bent sheet metal. This part of the production is highly automated. Both flows converge in the coating department, where lead time is just 24 hours. Most components are automatically placed into dedicated fixtures by robots in the machining cells. After coating, the parts go directly to assembly — the most labor-intensive stage of production.

“We couldn’t meet our short lead times or guarantee delivery schedules without our own coating operation. With this investment, we’re well prepared for the future,” Lars concludes.

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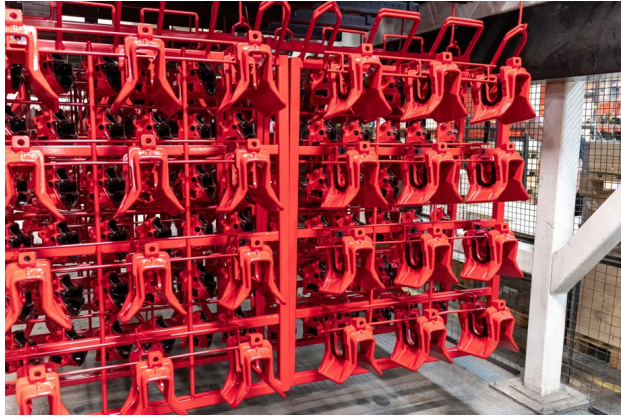
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Pictures:



Coated trailer couplings by the Swedish company VBG Truck Equipment (image source: Ytforum)



Powder coating system at VBG Truck Equipment (image source: Ytforum)



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The IPS coating center ensures fully automatic powder supply and fast color changes. The SFT feeding concept (“Smart Feeding Technology”) generates constant powder feeding even for high output rates over long periods of time. (Image source: J. Wagner GmbH)

About WAGNER

J. Wagner GmbH, Markdorf (Germany), is part of the WAGNER group of companies under the umbrella of Wagner International AG, based in Altstätten (Switzerland). WAGNER is one of the world's leading manufacturers of equipment and systems for surface finishing with powder coatings, liquid coatings, paints and other liquid materials. The origins of the company go back to the year 1947. Since then, WAGNER has been setting quality standards and offering industrial companiesmen, tradesmen and DIY enthusiasts economical, reliable and user-friendly solutions characterized by high quality and pioneering technologies. The WAGNER Group is represented worldwide by around 2000 employees in 20 operating companies and around 400 agencies. WAGNER is owned by the Josef Wagner Foundations, which pursue exclusively non-profit, charitable goals.

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