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6th Leading International Trade Fair for Industrial Coating Technology from 19 through 22 April 2016 in Karlsruhe (Germany)

PaintExpo – Efficiently Fulfilling Stricter Requirements for Coatings

Oberboihingen – **Ever greater demands are being placed on painted surfaces. Key aspects include improved quality, as well as increasing individuality and sustainability. In order to remain competitive, companies with in-house painting operations have to react to these requirements quickly and effectively despite rising cost pressure. Facts about new products, further developments and trends in industrial coating technology are necessary to this end, and these will be presented at PaintExpo at the Karlsruhe Exhibition Centre from the 19th through the 22nd of April, 2016.**

As a key technology, coating plays a decisive role in practically all fields of industrial manufacturing and in the production of consumer goods. A great variety of functional and decorative requirements need to be fulfilled for various surfaces. Regardless of whether metals, plastics, wood, wooden materials, glass or composite materials need to be coated, the requirements stipulate high-quality, resource-conserving, flexible, environmentally sound and, at the same time, economically efficient coating processes. The exhibitors at PaintExpo will present new solutions and further developments to this end – throughout the entire process sequence for liquid painting, powder coating and coil coating – from the 19th through the 22nd of April at the Karlsruhe Exhibition Centre.

Ecological, Efficient Pre-Treatment

The transition period for the use of chrome(VI)-containing products in the EU will expire on 21 September 2017, which is still used in some cases for the pre-treatment of aluminium and zinc. Thus far it's impossible to say whether or not chromium trioxide and other chromium compounds included in annex 14 of the REACH regulation will be authorised. Due to the fact that the changeover necessitates time-consuming, costly measures, advance information about conversion of an existing pre-treatment system or the design of a new one is indispensable. This is made possible by PaintExpo

in an ideal manner, because suppliers of chromium-free systems and equipment will be on hand. Innovations will await the visitors with regard to conventional pre-treatment processes for metallic substrates such as iron and zinc phosphatising, as well as nano-ceramic systems. Amongst others, products based on renewable raw materials for the cleaning and pre-treatment of components made of steel, iron and aluminium will be presented.

Simplifying Painting Processes

The optimisation of energy and resource efficiency is still a high-priority issue for companies with in-house painting operations all over the world. Developments which contribute to simplifying the utilised processes play an important role in this respect. These developments include so-called single-coat systems, because if the same results can be obtained with a single layer of paint which previously required several, significant material and energy savings can be achieved. PaintExpo exhibitors will present corresponding paint systems. A further trend for which solutions will be showcased involves liquid paints and powdered enamels which, in addition to their protective and decorative features, fulfil other functions as well. These include, for example, self-healing, self-cleaning, antimicrobial, temperature compensating, ice-resistant and photocatalytic paint layers. In the field of powder coating, ultra-thin powdered enamels permit significantly reduced consumption thanks to reduced layer thicknesses – as of 25 µm depending on the colour.

Where efficient overspray scrubbing is concerned, demand is continuously increasing for dry scrubbing systems. These solutions make use of brushes, electrostatics, powder and special carton designs for the effective, energy-saving and resource-conserving scrubbing of overspray.

Coating Technology 4.0

After the steam engine, the assembly line and computer technology, with Industry 4.0 the fourth industrial revolution is targeting coating technology as well – which is actually more of an evolution based on modular, browser-based manufacturing execution systems (MES) which will be presented at PaintExpo. They network the factory throughout the entire manufacturing process (horizontally), as well as through all process levels (vertically). This permits integrated data acquisition, analysis and graphic display in real-

time. Production and logistics processes are thus made fully transparent on the one hand, and data can be accessed from anywhere in the world at any time on the other hand. As a result, processes can not only be controlled, monitored and optimised from a PC at the workplace, but rather from a laptop, a tablet or smartphone at any location as well.

Infobox

PaintExpo Exhibition Programme

Systems and equipment for liquid painting, powder coating and coil coating, application systems and spray guns, liquid paints and powdered enamels, automation and conveyor technology, compressed air technology, cleaning and pre-treatment, drying and curing, environmental technology, air supply and exhaust purification, water treatment, recycling and disposal, accessories such as covering materials and systems, painting hangers, filters and pumps, measuring and test technology, quality assurance, paint stripping, job-shop coating, packaging, identification, services, basic and further training, research and technical literature.

Further information and a preliminary exhibitor list can be accessed at www.paintexpo.de.

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