

The logo for WAGNER, featuring the word "WAGNER" in a bold, black, sans-serif font with a stylized triangle above the letter 'A', set against a yellow rectangular background.

## High-end coating for lifting platforms

Perfect surface coating of steel platforms

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**"Technology for People" is the slogan of Herkules, a workshop equipment supplier based in Kassel, Germany. The brand has been a byword for quality in the motor vehicle industry for 40 years, and is instantly recognizable by its blue and yellow lifting platforms. Perfect surface coating of its steel platforms, which often cope with heavy-duty jobs, is one of the factors that ensure quality. Also important to Herkules are efficiency and eco-friendliness, two more reasons the company now relies on painting equipment from WAGNER.**

Any supplier wanting to convince vehicle sales outlets, technical inspection organizations, and auto repair shops of the quality of its workshop equipment must manufacture products that are efficient and robust in every respect. This is especially true on the lifting gear market, characterized by a large number of competitors. What customers expect from a German manufacturer is absolute perfection over the entire service life. Modern workshops that insist on a clean, attractive appearance no longer accept steel structures that rust after just a few years. Yet the dirt and salt water from vehicles supported by the platforms present a tough challenge to the surface coating.

### Divided painting booth for large and small parts

Herkules pays special attention to the mechanical and chemical resistance of its painted surfaces. That's why the specifications for the new painting system ordered by the Kassel-based workshop supplier included high quality and efficiency, plus eco-friendliness and reliable service. Now Herkules uses a state-of-the-art painting booth featuring innovative technology from J. Wagner GmbH of Markdorf. It was delivered by WAGNER's longstanding sales and service partner WMO Oberflächentechnik GmbH of Welver after joint agreement on the tailor-made design. The system feeds two painting workstations. Depending on requirements, these apply one or two coats of special paint to a range of 100 different steel and aluminum parts. Small and medium-sized parts pass through the booth suspended from an





efficient rail system. Right alongside is an area for painting large parts, which are fed in manually.

The core element of the new painting system is the electronic **WAGNER FlexControl Smart for two-component mixing and dosing**. The paints from Teknos Deutschland GmbH used here have proved their worth at Herkules for years. The high-solid products from the Teknodur 9204 range are individually selected to suit each job. This paint range stands out not only for its high solids content and extremely fast drying and hardening, but also for its exceptional durability. That makes these paints ideal for the harsh conditions in workshops where they come into contact with salt water and other aggressive substances.

### High transfer efficiency with good edge coating

What's more, the new plant achieves even higher efficiency and environmental sustainability. Optimally formulated for the **WAGNER GM 5000 EAC electrostatic spray guns**, the special paint enables better edge coating with less overspray, even on parts with difficult geometries. Welcome side effects are reduced booth cleaning and maintenance work. The GM 5000 EAC with air caps for round and flat spray patterns is designed for top-level pressures of up to 250 bar, making it ideal for higher-viscosity paints. It is used at Herkules for coating all parts and is extremely popular. An integrated filter which can be opened without removing the material hose makes this spray gun a professional tool with maximum availability.

### Fast, reliable color changes

Herkules benefits several times a day from one of the great advantages of the **FlexControl Smart dosing system**: fast, easy color changing. Simply pressing a button on the control unit triggers fully automatic rinsing and selection of a new color.

With the previous finishing system, changing between the standard blue and yellow or special colors involved adjusting ballcocks. Today, the FlexControl Smart intelligent color management solution rules out operating errors. However, what the Kassel-based workshop equipment supplier appreciates even more than the system's high productivity is its totally reliable color reproducibility. The precise measurement and control technology of the FlexControl Smart guarantees exact compliance with the set mixing ratios. So, even after many years, Herkules customers can rely on the perfect color match of replacement parts or additional equipment.



### All expectations fully met

It takes just four buttons and the user-friendly menu to access not only the formulas, but also the duration of use and the materials, including VOC data. The system automatically saves all data. Then the operator can use the USB interface to transfer it to a PC or other periphery device, where it can be evaluated and/or archived.

"We are completely satisfied with our WAGNER equipment and delighted with the results it gives us. It's all down to the good support given by WMO Oberflächentechnik, the technological expertise of the manufacturer in Markdorf, and its excellent cooperation with our paint supplier Teknos. In daily operation, the mixing and dosing system has proven to be very reliable, with especially maintenance-friendly components," says Sebastian Perez-

Furest, Head of Production at Herkules. "With the switch to this new, much more efficient painting system, we will continue to meet our commitments to quality and sustainability in the future. I'd also like to highlight the operator training provided by WMO. Mr. Ohsenbrink and his team showed us how to fully utilize the savings potential as well as the technical advantages."