



Grass green shelves with the PXM powder center

Shelving rack manufacturer invests in WAGNER powder coating system

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The trend is toward individual colors and intelligent coatings

Julius vom Hofe GmbH & Co KG specializes in the manufacture of high-quality shelving racks – from storage and archive shelving racks through to special shelving racks, such as for drinks crates, cable reels, hoses, and tires, through to multi-story, accessible rack installations. They are made from highgrade steel at the site in Lüdenscheid and subsequently powder coated. The coating is one of the most important quality features. "The surface has to be flawless," explains Christian Jünemann, Managing Director at Julius vom Hofe. "At present, we are also seeing a rise in demand for individual colors and intelligent coatings, which are anti-static or anti-bacterial, for example." To better meet these customer requirements, the company has replaced its ageing coating installation with a new powder coating system made by WAGNER.



Productivity and sustainability clinched the deal

When selecting the new system, a high degree of productivity was important for Julius vom Hofe in the first instance. "We only manufacture in Germany. Aside from our qualified employees, we therefore also need efficient technologies to remain competitive. In the case of powder coating, that means rapid color change, time-saving cleaning, and minimal powder consumption."

After comparing different suppliers, Julius vom Hofe opted for a coating system made by WAGNER with a **PXM powder center**. Where two employees previously had to spend two hours working in protective clothing, the color

change now takes between 10 and a maximum of 20 minutes – if you want to reliably avoid color carry-over to the next color. This is possible thanks to a sophisticated design and automation. The powder is not just blown out of the suction tube interior (image), but the outside of the tube is automatically wiped as well. An intelligent menu guide helps employees through the color changing process at the display. The fact that the powder can be supplied directly from the box for small batches also makes the work easier. For major coating tasks, it is possible for the supply to come from a larger fluid tank. A vibrating table beneath the box or fluid tank optimally prepares the powder for its subsequent fluidization. During coating, the system's recovery system collects the excess powder so that it can be reused.

"It's important for us to take responsibility for people and the environment. That's why we opt for sustainable solutions when selecting our technologies," Christian Jünemann explains the company philosophy. Further deciding factors for



the WAGNER system were therefore safe, ergonomic working conditions for employees, as well as low energy consumption.

Responding flexibly to customer requirements

With the WAGNER PXM powder center, Julius vom Hofe is now in the position to meet customer requirements in a flexible and yet economically viable manner. From the point of view of the managing directors, the investment in the new system has been worthwhile. "We've been using the WAGNER powder center since May 2015 and are extremely satisfied," reports Managing Director Christian Jünemann. "Not just in terms of the costs and coating quality. Our employees have also reported that the new system makes their work significantly easier. We are delighted about that."

