

TRUCCOAT

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PRODUCT FINISHING EQUIPMENT SPECIALISTS

ITW Gema – ‘Working with industry leading businesses to improve quality and combat rising costs’

Cfi are metal finishers, specialising in high-performance coatings for metals. They have been helping the architectural industry to do a better job for over thirty years, supplying a wide variety of custom-made coated extrusion products that are used all over the world, from Birmingham to Bangkok and beyond.

As part of a continuous investment programme Cfi have recently invested in the latest generation OptiFlex®2 powder coating machine from ITW Gema, an investment that is paying dividends all round. During a recent interview with Leon Hogg of ITW Gema UK, works manager Mike Matthews went on to explain the reasons behind the decision to invest in new equipment:

Q: What was the driver behind investing in new powder application equipment?

“At Cfi we use premium quality powders and deliver our customers quality finishes to the highest standards. To help counter recent price hikes from several of our powder suppliers we have focused on reducing our applied powder costs, this has to be done without compromising the product finish quality we have built our reputation upon. The OptiFlex provided us with the solution to overcome these challenges and has delivered many additional benefits whilst improving our products’ finish quality.”

Q: What are the headline benefits you have seen from the OptiFlex 2 product?

“Since the installation of the OptiFlex 2 we have benefitted from a minimum reduction of 25% in powder used, in some cases we have seen a 35% reduction depending upon the powder type and product complexity. It seems the bigger the coating challenge the more noticeable the savings in both time and powder”

“Equally as noticeable is the significant reduction in the powder waste generated during the coating process, this has delivered a cleaner operating environment and reduced our cleaning times considerably.”

“The machine has given us the confidence to coat much more complex products and deliver premium quality over and above the previous machine whilst delivering the all important powder savings we set out to achieve”

The OptiFlex 2’s evaluation was tasked with plant operator Steve Wing, Steve has a wealth of industry experience and has firsthand experience with various makes and types of equipment. During the interview we asked Steve about the key benefits identified during products evaluation, Steve went on to explain:



“We took the new OptiFlex 2 on demo back in August. The unit clearly demonstrated itself within hours, ticking every box. The improvement in application performance over our old machine was noticeable immediately, it’s so easy to use and the unit’s functionality and unique features are not gimmicks but useful tools for the job.”

“The light weight and well balanced OptiFlex 2 new gun makes light work of the job in hand, the fast trigger response time minimises unnecessary waste and has helped speed up our process.”

Q: What were the key features and benefits from your OptiFlex 2 new gun?

“The integrated powder purge function is worth its weight in gold, we use a lot of sticky primer powders that can slow up the process if you have to manually clean and clear build-up and blockages. The PCC (Precision Charge Control) mode has also delivered significant benefits during the application of coating metallic powders for architectural and alloy wheel products, aesthetically we have witnessed improved colour definition”

“As an added bonus we are now making considerable savings on gas, another essential requirement in our process. Thanks to the OptiFlex 2 we are no longer using the pre-heat oven and are able to apply directly on to pre-coated cold products. The re-coat setting provides superb coverage, the powder sticks to the product and the static attraction is significantly better than the previous machine.”

Trucoat demonstrated this machine to Cfi in August and received an order immediately because of what is explained in this article.

Trucoat are please to welcome Cfi to the ITW Gema product range and look forward to supporting them in their future.



CFI are a centrally located, family run business. Established in 1976 CFI have been providing a professional, efficient and friendly service to a multitude of businesses for over 30 years.

We offer many different finishes including anti bacterial, anti microbial, low friction, ultra thin, anti graffiti, paint spraying/coating of PVCU and many more.

Address:
CFI Powder Coatings,
Unit 9B/Thorpe Close,
Banbury

For information on Cfi’s products and services please contact Mike Matthews telephone: 01295 257 014

Website: www.ukpowdercoating.co.uk

OptiFlex®2

The OptiFlex®2 puts the world’s most advanced manual powder coating technology in the palm of your hand. Spray all powders with ease, coat complex geometries with outstanding efficiency and quality and do it all in the most challenging environments – anywhere on the planet.

- 20% Powder saving
- Significant quality improvements
- A quality and durable product

For more information, please contact Leon Hogg on 07826 551240 or email your enquiry to sales@itwgema.co.uk



