

Success Stories

LEL External Mix Systems

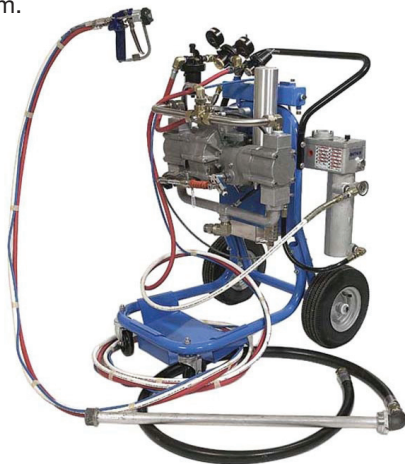
> Wind Turbine Blade Manufacturer Cuts Gel-Coating Time, Gel Coat Costs with Binks LEL Equipment

Finishing Need

The world's leading supplier of wind turbine blades was experiencing double-digit sales growth, and needed updated gel-coating methods to speed up production and help meet demand.

Solution

The company began replacing its high-pressure airless gel coating equipment with Binks LEL External Mix Systems. Binks Air Atomized Gel Coat Outfit delivers a clear spray film and an airfree gel coat. Binks also supplied a custom large impingement tip for the spray gun for a more efficient application spray. In addition, a special cart was designed that allowed a gel coat unit to run on each end of the turbine blade, while sharing one drum.



Results

The Binks Outfit applied the gel coat in a highly-efficient "soft spray" and saved the company precious production time as well as coating material:

- > **Production Time Savings.** Standard gel coating time has been cut from 45 minutes to 24 minutes per part, helping the company produce more blades and meet growing demand.
- > **Material Savings.** Due to the more efficient spraying method of the Binks LEL Outfit, gel coat usage has been cut by 25%, saving the company material costs.
- > **Reduced Maintenance & Replacement Costs.** Spare parts usage has decreased by approximately 30% due to less mechanical parts on the Binks system, and a more reliable design. The durable design has also ensured continued operation, which is key to the company's goal of streamlining blade production.
- > **Cleaner environment.** The Binks Gel Coat System offers maximum resin transfer with low emissions levels, with no catalyst fumes in the workplace air supply.