

NEW CONTRACTS KEEP HI-TEC SPRAY FLYING HIGH AS THE LEADING SURFACE COATINGS TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIER TO THE AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY

New orders from companies in the civil and military aviation sectors have boosted Hi-Tec Spray's claim to be Britain's biggest supplier of spray paint systems custom-designed to meet specific client requirements.

The Kent-based company has a long and successful track record of offering a complete service to the aviation sector, from aircraft component manufacturers like Martin Baker (ejector seats) and Messier Dowty (undercarriages) to assembly and manufacturing companies like Airbus, Lucas Aerospace, Bristow and Westland helicopters.

Hi-Tec Spray managing director Garry Dowling said: 'We really do offer a full service, from manufacturer and assembly through to after-sales maintenance. This work includes stripping aircraft and repainting, either as part of planned maintenance work or when airlines go through livery rebranding. We work closely with all the major global carriers, including British Airways.

'Hi-Tec Spray is now the largest specialist coatings equipment supplier to the aviation and aerospace industry in the UK, an achievement we are very proud of,' he added.

Recent orders placed with Hi-Tec Spray by the aviation industry include:

- **Sprayavia International** - Hi-Tec Spray has won an order from Sprayavia International, one of Europe's leading aircraft refinishing specialists. Based at Norwich Airport, Sprayavia has two modern, fully extracted, temperature and humidity controlled facilities for aircraft up to Boeing 757 size. The firm also has access to additional facilities in the UK and mainland Europe for aircraft up to Boeing 747 size. 'We have supplied Sprayavia with paint stripper equipment and electrostatic paint spray guns which have been designed to meet its own rigorous standards. Every piece of equipment supplied must comply with the latest regulations governing design and manufacture. The equipment must be durable, reliable and portable,' added Garry Dowling.
- **Air Livery** - Hi-Tec Spray has recently completed an order placed by aircraft refurbishment and refinishing specialist, Air Livery. The company undertakes its maintenance work for narrow-bodied jets at a 46,000 sq ft plant at Southend Airport, and all wide-bodied aircraft work at a new centre at Filton Airport, near Bristol. Hi-Tec Spray has supplied six portable single gun Graco Triton Diaphragm Pump electrostatic units for use at the Southend site.

- **Airbus UK** - Hi-Tec Spray has been working with paint systems technology firm Durr and Airbus UK to supply and install equipment to paint the wings of the new Airbus A380, the world's biggest passenger jet. Hi-Tec Spray carried out trials with Airbus engineers to find the most suitable equipment with which to apply the paint to the wings. It also worked to find a portable paint feed system for the gantry and trolley access systems so that operators do not have to walk on the wing. Hi-Tec Spray helped provide training in the set-up, operation and maintenance of the equipment at Airbus UK's site in North Wales, and it was also asked to supply and install equipment for a 'paint kitchen', from where paint is dispensed.
- **Bombardier Aircraft (Shorts of Belfast)** - Hi-Tec Spray installed an electronic two- and three-part Graco ProBatch component paint system, for the Canada Air and Learjet production lines.
- **Hamble Areospace (part of Smiths Industries Group)** - Aircraft component suppliers Hamble Structures ordered a high precision 'ProBatch' system for dispensing paint for use on airframe, including wings, for Boeing, Raytheon and Typhoon.
- **Hamson** - Aircraft component suppliers to leading aircraft manufactures throughout the world, Hi-Tec Spray installed the latest Graco reactor unit to meter, mix and spray apply the latest 2 component protective coating to items upon completion of the manufacture.