

Office furniture manufacturer relies on ultra thin powder coating

# REDUCED POWDER COATING CONSUMPTION, INCREASED SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

*The company Bigla Swiss Emmental produces modernly and practically designed office facilities at the highest level. For quite some time, the company invested in the powder coating of ultra thin powder coating (UDS) and achieved a significant reduction in powder coating consumption and an increase in system capacity.*



*Excellent course, high coverage and evenly thin layer are reproducible at any time on the furniture parts.*



"In addition to the functionality a look and feel are crucial for the purchase of office furniture. These are no longer just storage cabinets and desks, but the heart of an interior design", explains the head of marketing and communications at Bigla. To achieve an optimized quality through better course and lower accumulation of powder coating in the corners, Bigla introduced the UDS powder coating by KABE Farben. 25 percent more throughput should be increased in addition to the quality standards and the efficiency of the powder coating should save energy at the same time. "Green energy is a big issue at our company, which proves even our solar power plant. We are always looking for a optimization of potential, and powder coating also came to a great importance ", said the head of the coating department. The energy savings are significant with the UDS powder coating. Because the temperature of the NT powder coatings is lower about 20°C and an oven runs with the standard temperature, it increased the flow rate by 25 percent. The covering power and the course of the powder exceeded all expectations. Desired layer thickness were achieved just at the beginning. KABE Farben has employed the instrument "Covering capacity plate" colors for a test. It shows visually, in which layer of thickness range, the covering capacity is still sufficient, and it can point out where adjustments can be made immediately.

Another important criterion is the resistance and wear resistance of the UDS powder coating. The office furniture manufacturer faced the question of whether the thin layer can withstand the daily burden with folders, cassettes, or office supplies. A machine simulates the load in an office during a year with the coated parts of the equipment . The UDS powder by KABE Farben proved from the beginning the same resistance as standard powder coatings. But ultimately the most important is the powder coating saving, which is to be achieved in the usage of the UDS powder coating: "We achieve a proven savings of 45 percent", reported a visibly satisfied head of coating department. Crucial point for switch? Powder coaters often shun a switch to the UDS powder coating. Settings on systems must be adapted, and the coaters must adjust their methods to the powder coating. The fact that it worked at Bigla easily, is caused by the following factors: "Application engineers from Karl Bubenhofer AG actively supported us



during the introduction phase and accompanied our production site. That helped us in establishing the correct application settings. At the same time the coaters must be given time to gain experience with the new powder. So now we know that a cloister of the object for an optimal coating is sufficient." The coating at the office furniture manufacturer had from the very beginning a positive and professional attitude towards the new powder coating. This is also the professionals at the facility who have a great know-how in coating technology. In

order to keep it this way, industrial painters are trained on a regular basis. A key success factor in the implementation of the project was the service of Karl Bubenhofer AG. All in all achieved Bigla achieved today around 45 percent of powder coating savings and 25 percent higher throughput in reproducible quality. A complete success and a stimulus for the users and suppliers of powder, was to expand the use of UDS powder coatings. Report produced on 08/2013



*"With the UDS powder coatings we reach 25 percent more performance and 45 percent powder coating saving."*

Equipment and Installation Manager  
at Bigla Office

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