



# Case Study

## Automotive OEM Successfully Converts Paint Detackification Emulsion System

### Situation

- Customer's original process was designed for emulsion chemistry but converted to a traditional water system due to high operating costs and limited capability with increased production
- Previous competitor's traditional program was unable to successfully operate five tank system - system had poor water quality/high suspended solids resulting in increased cleaning costs
- The system's inability to remove the paint solids caused booth balance issues and affected vehicle paint quality

### Background

- A new automotive assembly plant was constructed in the mid-2000's
- The paint booths were set up to run on an emulsion system rather than traditional water - thus the tanks had very small tank volumes, were shallow and had short retention times
- A competitor attempted to operate the system without success. Galaxy was brought in when the customer wanted to improve their performance

### Solution

- Paint samples were screened against the Galaxy detackification chemistries and the program with the best kill, clarity and floatation was selected
- GCC 836, a high-performing product, was chosen based on the system's operating challenges
- Various application points were evaluated to mesh with the new sludge handling equipment - and the process was optimized
- Brought in technology from the textile industry to deal with some of the customer's challenges

### Results

- Galaxy was able to successfully transition the system to the Galaxy program, dramatically improving booth performance
- System now operates with very low suspended solids (20-50 ppm) going back to the booths
- Operating Cost per Unit well below competitive program