



# Case Study

## Continuous Improvement Project Leads to Big Gains in Booth Balance

### Situation

- An OEM facility was experiencing poor booth balance in the primer booth

### Background

- Galaxy replaced another chemical supplier at an OEM facility
- Once the start-up conversion was completed, Galaxy initiated a continuous improvement program
- Galaxy discovered the facility had issues maintaining the booth balance in the primer booth

### Solution

- Galaxy audited the system and found the facility had problems with both water flow and water distribution
- Galaxy measured the water flow using an ultrasonic flow meter and discovered the booth supply pumps were 30% below design, even though the plant was less than six years old
- Galaxy worked with maintenance and found that the original impellers were cast iron. The previous chemical supplier had constant issues with foam, which damaged the impellers due to cavitation.
- Phase one: The plant started a PM program to begin replacing impellers with stainless steel
- Phase two: Water distribution was a problem due to sludge deposition on the troughs and flood sheets due to a poor chemical treatment program from the previous supplier. Once the deposition was gone, Galaxy was able to rebalance the water distribution and greatly improve the booth balance.

### Results

- Improved booth balance allowed operations to focus on new paint shop challenges
- The outside contractor in charge of booth balance stated that they could now actually balance the booth