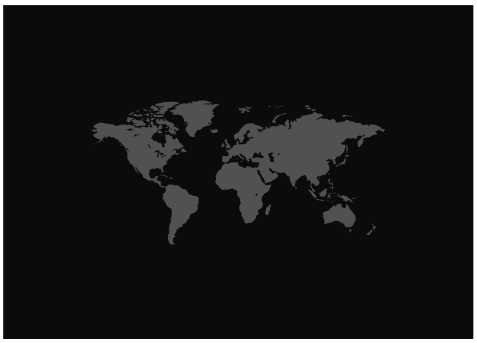
WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD

How robotics and automation improved wheel refinishing operations for Bauer Built.



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THE **SITUATION**

Bauer Built Tire & Service is a top provider of new and retread tires for commercial, fleet, agriculture and industry.

THE **CHALLENGE**

Tire retreading and wheel refinishing is big business. But like many companies in manufacturing, Bauer Built struggled to keep up with demands due to worker shortages and a lack of automation in its finishing operation. With three operators on a manual batch-style system, they were producing between 100–120-wheel rims per day. Despite the team's best efforts, the quality of the finished product was inconsistent and there was a great deal of waste due to overspray.

THE **SOLUTION**

With a goal of improving efficiency and quality, Bauer Built worked with DeGeest and LestaUSA to install an automated powder coating system, which included a Lesta Self-Learning Robot and continuous conveyor system that fit within the same footprint as their existing blasters and oven. The solution removed much of the manual labor while increasing production on the line.

> BAUER BUILT WAS ABLE TO INCREASE PRODUCTION TO **180 RIMS PER DAY WITH ONLY TWO OPERATORS.**

THE **OUTCOME**

Shortly after installation, Bauer Built was able to increase production to 180 rims per day with only two operators. This boost in productivity allowed the company to meet growing market demand while raising the quality and consistency of its finishing due to the precision of their Lesta solution.

Bauer Built also saw a significant decrease in defects along with cost savings due to a substantial reduction in powder consumption and waste.

We help our customers in one of two ways: We use automation and manufacturing expertise to produce parts for them, or we create automation solutions to help them do it themselves. What can we do for you?

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A STRONGER **STANDARD**

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