

CASE STORY

International machinery manufacturer optimizes paint detackification with Alumichem

Alumichem partnered with the factory owner to optimize the paint detackification system on the engine painting line, resulting in improved cleanliness, efficiency, and process stability.

Introduction

The manufacturer is widely regarded as a global leader in its industry. In early 2025, the production facility partnered with Alumichem to improve the performance, stability, and cost-efficiency of their paint detackification process. A technical and chemical audit of the existing setup revealed clear opportunities for optimization. In August 2025, Alumichem started implementing the full detack process on-site.

The Challenge

The production facility's paint system handled unstable production flows and varying loads of waterborne paint. This required a stable, low-foam detackification process that would reduce sludge handling and minimize cleaning frequency.

The previous detackification chemistry relied on bentonite as paint detackifier chemical, adding dry matter and water retention to the sludge. This increased sludge disposal costs and drove high overall chemical consumption. The manufacturer wanted a more efficient solution that would reduce both chemical usage and on-site storage needs.



Alumichem's Solution

Alumichem replaced the existing chemicals with the **AluTACK** program, a high-performance bio-polymer solution drawing on more than 25 years of experience with industrial and automotive paint systems. In addition to the chemistry upgrade, Alumichem also recommended improvements to the dosing system, enabling a better process outcome with minimal investment. Together, these changes created a more stable and efficient detackification process.

Solution & Results



- Reduction in chemical consumption and chemical stock >65%.
- Lower sludge disposal cost through optimized dewatering and no added dry matter.
- Reduced cleaning frequency and maintenance costs.
- Improved process stability and cleaner system water.
- Overall reduction in total detackification operating costs.

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Results

The transition to Alumichem's **AluTACK** clean water solution delivered substantial improvements across performance, cost, and operational stability at the production facility. Chemical consumption was decreased and on-site stock reduced by more than 65%. Sludge volume and disposal costs was significantly reduced due to a dry, easily dewatered sludge - from 37% dryness to >95%.

Cleaner water and fewer cleanings, eliminating sticky paint on flood sheets. Total detack process cost is notably reduced through lower chemical use, less dry matter added, and improved system performance.



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