

# Aluminum wheel paint pretreatment



General metal finishing

Paint support technology

atotech.com



## A superior approach to aluminum wheel paint pretreatment

### Atotech's aluminum wheel paint pretreatment

UniPrep®  
P-free, long life, low temperature cleaners

Desmutter  
Fluoride-free inorganic smut removal

Interlox®  
Zirconium conversion coatings

InterPrep®  
Corrosion resistant coatings

As consumer demands shift and environmental regulations expand, the complexity of creating a durable, corrosion resistant coating capable of meeting manufacturers' performance requirements has increased. Atotech's aluminum wheel paint pretreatment meets all major OEM specifications while offering applicators significant process benefits and savings.

For aluminum wheels, whether cast or forged, removing organic and inorganic soils followed by forming a corrosion resistant barrier is essential in achieving a high quality finish. Conventional paint pretreatment methods are often unsustainable and inefficient, utilizing high operating temperatures and regulated chemicals while offering a short solution life and insufficient cleaning of the aluminum surface.

Over the past decade, Atotech has developed products designed to overcome the obstacles posed by conventional processes for aluminum wheel paint pretreatment. In refining our process, Atotech has identified the ideal combination of cleaners, deoxidizers / desmutters and conversion coatings to provide OEM, Tier 1 and aftermarket applicators a sustainable paint pretreatment capable of attaining the superior finish they expect and their customers' demand.

# Sustainable paint pretreatment for aluminum wheels



**Figure 1:**  
Achieving a superior finish is easier than ever with Atotech's aluminum wheel paint pretreatment process

## Sustainability at the core of product development

In paint pretreatment our product development revolves around sustainability. For Atotech, sustainability means developing products that minimize or eliminate environmental and societal impact while establishing an economically sound process. We focus on developing products and processes that conserve water and energy while minimizing waste, resulting in substantial cost savings. In addition, Atotech consciously formulates products to meet current and future environmental regulations, which include the elimination of phosphorus, boron, alkylphenol ethoxylates (APE), chromium and strong chelating agents.

## Aluminum wheel paint pretreatment at a glance

Low to ambient temperature operation	Significantly reduces energy demands and creates a safer work environment. Potential to eliminate heating equipment
Decreased use of hazardous and regulated substances (P, B, APE, Cr, HF, heavy metals)	Provides a sustainable paint pretreatment process without compromising performance
Extended solution life	Reduces burden on wastewater treatment as well as the cost required for chemistry replacement
Superior cleaning of aluminum surface	Improves paint performance in adhesion, corrosion and filiform corrosion testing
Mild, etch-free chemistry	No dulling of machined or polished aluminum surfaces



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