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Wolkerstorfer Company Remains in Elite Status Among North American Finishing Operations

Products Finishing magazine names Minneapolis firm to the 'Top Shops' list again

CINCINNATI, Ohio [February 2019] – It is very difficult to be named one of the most outstanding companies in a given industry, but a Minnesota surface finishing company has not only done it two years in a row, but they did in two separate practices, an extremely rare feat.

Wolkerstorfer Company on 1st Street Southwest in Minneapolis, was named one of the Top 50 finishing electroplating operations in North America according to an industry benchmarking survey conducted by *Products Finishing* magazine, a trade publication which has covered the industry since 1936.

It is the second year in a row that Wolkerstorfer Company finished among the elite in the electroplating industry, but making the accomplishment even more impressive is that in 2018 the company was named a Top Shop in both the electroplating benchmarking survey, and the liquid and powder coating survey, which are done at different times of the year.

“We have surface finishing shops that are very good at one or the other, but rarely both,” said Tim Pennington, editor of *Products Finishing* magazine. “There were only 7 shops in North America out of thousands that earned Top Shops in both electroplating and liquid / powder coating, so it makes Wolkerstorfer a very unique and extremely well-run operation.”

Products Finishing conducted an extensive benchmarking survey that analyzed a company in several different areas, including Finishing Technology, Finishing Practices and Performances, Business Strategies and Performances, and Training and Human Resources. The magazine looked at more than 40 specific operational and business matrices of each shop which took part in the survey, and graded the shops on how they performed versus the Top Shops, or the top 20th percentile in statistical analysis.

“The criteria we used was very stringent, and only the finishing operations that excelled in all four areas made the list,” Pennington said. “Some shops go all out just to be recognized as one of the top 50 operations in their industry, but to earn that status in two distinct disciplines is a significant accomplishment.”

Wolkerstorfer Company has been in the finishing and testing business for over 120 years, operating in an 83,000 square foot building just north of Minneapolis. The company serves the aerospace, military, heavy industrial, and subsea markets to companies such as Boeing, Rolls Royce, Sikorsky, Honeywell and other OEM manufacturers.

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