

Improving rail stock manufacturing processes

Demand for new rolling stock is on the increase. But with that comes pressure to find more efficient, sustainable and safer ways to improve the manufacturing processes involved. There are three key areas where 3M can help rolling stock manufacturers address these challenges – increased production automation, sustainability improvements and helping ensure staff and passenger safety at all times.



Better productivity through automation

In order to stay competitive rail manufacturers are constantly striving to find new ways to make their manufacturing processes more efficient. Automation is increasingly important, helping companies reduce costs and lead times, whilst improving productivity and performance. It's an area where 3M has proven expertise, applying its innovative thinking to help rail companies develop and integrate more effective automation systems into the manufacturing process.

Solutions from 3M:



Automatic grinding and polishing for rail car body and key components

The automated grinding and polishing of rail car bodies and key components is a key stage in the rolling stock manufacturing process. Companies are continuously exploring ways to simplify and speed their finishing processes so as to drive down costs, but without compromising on the quality of the finish. 3M has a long established reputation as experts in automated abrasive systems and works with its customers to develop and implement improved robotic grinding and finishing processes that help improve business performance.



Customised 3M™ DI-NOC™ Architectural Films speed installation of interior wall panels

3M DI-NOC Architectural Films are well known for creating appealing interior looks, quickly and inexpensively. These vinyl films realistically re-create the visual effect of natural materials and at a fraction of the cost of traditional materials. 3M is able to offer rolling stock manufacturers a customised DI-NOC film that can be applied to aluminium panels and press formed in order to mould around complex shapes (e.g. panels that include windows). This application can be undertaken quickly without the need for a skilled installer, saving time and money for the manufacturer as well as improving overall manufacturing productivity.





**Commercial Solutions
Division**

3M United Kingdom PLC
3M Centre, Cain Road
Bracknell, Berkshire
RG12 8HT
Tel: 01344 858000

commgraphics.uk@mmm.com

**Commercial Solutions
Division**

3M Ireland (Dublin)
The Iveagh Building
The Park, Carrickmines
Dublin 18, Ireland
Tel: 00 353 1280 3555

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For more information visit
www.3M.co.uk/rail

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