# **Hunter Highlights**

*News and Trends of the Automotive Service Industrv* 

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## **BMW Group Approves Hunter's New KDS II Alignment Systems**



BMW Group has approved Hunter's new Kinematic Diagnose System (KDS) wheel aligner for use in its BMW centers worldwide. The approved KDS II models include a Hunter Series 811 Alignment Console and DSP600 Digital Imaging Sensors or DSP508 Electronic Sensors, giving BMW centers a choice of which equipment will best suit their service environment. The DSP600-equipped KDS II-Plus is the industry's only digital imaging alignment system approved by BMW Group. The sensors' unique design and application of

technology offer faster alignments and reduced maintenance costs. The KDS II's customized Hunter WinAlign® alignment software is designed to handle the most sophisticated BMW Group vehicles including those with single-joint, spring-loaded front axles and multi-link rear axles with spherical kinematics. Hunter earned the BMW Group approval by performing to the automaker's strict standards and complying with its initiative to provide the most advanced alignment technology to service the innovative handling features of its vehicles.

#### Hunter Shows New Technology to Record Attendance at Industry Week

In Las Vegas, the Automotive Aftermarket Industry Week (AAIW) events reported record breaking attendance. Hunter continued its tradition of highly visible participation with booths in all major exhibitions.





Hunter's WinAlign<sup>®</sup> Tuner software, featured in this Automotive Aftermarket Products Expo (AAPEX) booth, supports service providers specializing in modified vehicles.



At the International Autobody Congress and Exposition (NACE), Hunter featured its Chief-USB alignment system, a team effort with Chief Automotive Systems to offer wheel alignment to collision repair shops. This was the first year that NACE joined the Industry Week events.



Visitors were eager to learn about Hunter's newest wheel vibration management solutions for custom wheel and tire service.



Hunter's exhibits were well staffed to assist visitors and demonstrate the company's new equipment designs and features.

### SS100 and SS100T Sideslip Meters Add Computing and Software Power

unter has redesigned its sideslip meters to incorporate the same robust, proprietary computer console hardware and operating software used in its wheel alignment systems. The SS100 for passenger cars and SS100T for heavy-duty trucks are now available with a Hunter Series 811 or Series 511 console. With a simple 30-second drive-through test, the





Above, the SS100 displays vehicle sideslip on the Windows-based computer console screen. Left, the SS100T handles heavy-duty trucks as well as passenger cars.

SS100 or SS100T measures for excessive wheel sideslip caused by misalignment or worn or damaged parts. Results are available on the console screen in seconds. A color printer is standard with all sideslip meters, providing a high-impact tool for increasing customer repair authorizations.

#### **Hunter Visitors**

#### Goodyear

From left: Hunter Director of Product Management **Denny Bowen**; Goodyear Manager of Service Sales & Retail Operations **Rich Schossler**; Hunter Vice President of Sales & Marketing **Dave Smith**; Hunter Cleveland Regional Manager **Frank Ponte**.





#### Ford Motor Company

From left: Hunter Director of OEM Programs Jeff Kern; Hunter Vice President of Sales & Marketing Dave Smith; Rotunda Manager Malcom Barrett; Ford Manager, Technical Support Operations Jeff Nienhuis; Hunter President Steve Brauer.

## **Powder Coated Lift and Alignment Products Offers Exceptional Durability and Appearance**

unter has replaced its alignment rack, jack and turnplate paint coating with TGIC polyester powder coat. Powder coating provides a uniform, high-quality finish that is more resistant to chipping, scratching, fading, corrosion and attack by caustic fluids normally encountered in a shop environment.

The finish is applied to newly fabricated parts at Hunter's recently opened 40,000 sq. ft. powder coat line, attached to the company's Durant, Mississippi production facility. Parts are conveyed through multi-stage application processes that include five cleaning and surface preparation steps, electrostatic application of resin powder and oven gelling and curing. Within minutes of exiting ovens newly coated parts are ready for assembly in adjoining plant areas.

Powder coating coats more efficiently reducing waste. Unlike conventional wet coatings, more than 85% of powder coating adheres to the part or is recycled for re-application. The dry application process also reduces chemical solvent release into the atmosphere.



In a highly automated process parts receive a phosphate wash and are dried in ovens prior to application of the resin powder.



Finished alignment rack runways are ready for assembly. With its unique combination of extreme durability and high-quality appearance, powder coat finish has quickly become a favorite for many automotive industry applications.



While most of the powder application is automated, production staff monitor quality and even out the application where necessary. An electrostatic charge attracts the powder to the part surface prior to the oven gelling process.



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