

Our History

Spray Equipment & Service Center specializes in distributing and servicing industrial spray equipment to customers applying a wide range of coatings. Customers range in size from Fortune 500 companies to small fabrication shops.

The Beginning

Spray Equipment & Service Center was founded in 1969 by Doug and Vonnie Spatz. The company began by distributing automotive paint and application equipment. In early 1970, Doug approached Al Hammar about leaving Sherwin-Williams, who at the time was manager of the downtown Wichita Sherwin-Williams. Al decided to make the move on one condition: Spray Equipment & Service Center had to drop the automotive paint line and focus exclusively on distributing finishing equipment. Doug and Vonnie agreed and on March 1, 1970, Al joined the company.

The 1970s

During the 1970s, Doug handled the parts service departments, Vonnie handled the administration, and Al was in charge of sales. Times were lean and the hours long. The base business was built account by account, transaction by transaction. Al was on the road several nights a week, and a lot of Saturdays were spent in the store. The hard work paid off and in 1979 Doug, Vonnie, and Al sold the company. Doug and Vonnie retired while Al ran the company under new ownership.

The 1980s

In 1983, Al bought the company back. The economy was in a recession and the previous owner had drained most of the equity out of the company. Over the decade Al was able to revive the business and expand Spray Equipment's geographical presence. The Springfield, MO facility opened in 1985 followed by the Omaha, NE facility in 1988.



The 1990s

In 1997, Al stepped down as President of Spray Equipment & Service Center. His son, Mark Hammar, who graduated from Wichita State University with a degree in Business Administration, took over the family business as the new President of Spray Equipment. Al has remained a corporate director.

The 2000s

SprayLab, a state-of-the-art testing and training facility, was completed in 2000 at the Wichita facility. It sets Spray Equipment apart from any other distributor in the region. It gives the company the capability to test a wide array of industrial and protective coating application methods and curing processes. Spray Equipment's geographical presence increased yet again with the opening of a facility in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex area in 2005.

The 2010s

This decade has been one of rapid growth with the opening of the Conway, AR facility in 2011 and in 2016 Spray Equipment added facilities in Pella, IA, Columbus, IN, and Mexico City, Mexico. Spray Equipment also has sales offices in several major cities in the Midwest including Oklahoma City and Minneapolis/St. Paul. We also have sales office in Aguascalientes and Leon, Mexico.

For more information

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