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High Flyer from Sweden

The Blackwing is an ultralight sports plane made entirely of carbon fibre. The technical and design qualities of this aircraft are making an impression in professional circles and beyond. The Red Dot jury is also enthusiastic about the innovative concept and presented the model made by Blackwing Sweden AB with a design award in 2016. The lightweight craft is finished with coatings from Spies Hecker.

The Blackwing from Lund, Sweden, is a real attention getter. And it's no wonder; after all, this sports aircraft is the product of state-of-the-art materials and design, based on 20 years of research in high-performance dynamics. The aircraft is made entirely of TeXtreme, an extremely strong and very light carbon fibre material that provides it with exceptional stability at very low weight. The low-winged plane is a top performer in terms of speed as well: It has an approved top speed of 400 km/h.

But the sports aircraft is not only fast, it also looks great. The carbon structure gives the lightweight aircraft not only stability but also a distinctive look. The carbon look on the underside of the low-winged aircraft is clearly evident. Which made a real impression on the Red Dot jury. They presented the Blackwing with a design award in 2016. Their reasoning: "It's strengths lie in its consistent aerodynamic lines and numerous other perfected details. This aircraft shows that taking a new approach to technical products can lead to new and unique outcomes."



The Blackwing made by Blackwing Sweden AB is an ultralight sports plane made entirely of carbon fibre.



The Blackwing was given the Red Dot Design Award in 2016.

"Thanks to the great qualities of Spies Hecker products, we're able to provide our customers with perfect results every time, without exceeding weight tolerances."

Demanding the most of coatings

There are several factors that need to be borne in mind when coating an ultralight Blackwing. Owing to the aerodynamics involved, the surfaces have to be exceptionally smooth, for example. Since the characteristic carbon look is supposed to be readily apparent, no air bubbles or other imperfections should be visible. Weight, too, plays a major role: No more coating than necessary should be used. This means the colour has to cover well despite the thin coating. "For the 22 square metres we needed only about five kilograms of coating", says Christian Rönnerberg, general manager of the paint shop Lj Blästring in Eslöv, a town in southern Sweden.

The shop uses Permafleet carbon fibre sealer 5605 from Spies Hecker. "The sealer is the ideal solution, because it provides a smooth surface for industrial products made of carbon fibre, highlighting the typical carbon look. A clear-coat is also applied for perfect UV protection," says Rönnerberg. He explains: "All products are selected very carefully in coordination with the customer, Blackwing Sweden AB." Moreover, each model is finished according to the individual customer's wishes, although the carbon fibre structure on the underside of the low-wing aircraft always remains visible as a fixed stylistic element. As a rule, the aircraft components that face skyward are silver in order to reflect the sun's rays. Christian Rönnerberg has been working with Spies Hecker since 2007 and is very satisfied with the company's products and services. "We're able to provide the customer perfect results without exceeding weight tolerances. What's more, the colours have a fantastic depth."

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