

PRESS INFORMATION

R-M Automotive Refinish – October 11, 2013



R-M BEST PAINTER CONTEST 2013

Ole Kristian Fureid from Norway wins the R-M International Best Painter Contest 2013.

Elvis Husic from Slovenia taking second place, while Steve Poiret from Belgium takes third place.

Ole Kristian Fureid from Norway is the winner of the International Final of the R-M Best Painter Contest. It was held from the 8th to the 10th of October 2013 at the Refinish Competence Center of BASF's automotive refinish brand R-M in Clermont de l'Oise, France. Elvis Husic from Slovenia took second place before Steve Poiret from Belgium.

18 participants from Asia-Pacific, Europe and South Africa competed over the three days international final after having been selected in the national finals that have been running around the world since 2012. The best automotive refinish painters are awarded for the finals. "The R-M Best Painter Contest has shown once again that we have the highest profile of automotive refinish painters in our business: young talents all providing excellent results. Our declared objective is to provide innovative solutions to make our customers more successful", declares Harald Pflanzl, Senior Vice President Automotive Refinish Coatings Solutions Europe: "With the new R-M Refinish Competence Center, we have an excellent location and offer a unique platform for sharing knowledge and know-how with our clients and business partners like 3M, DeVilbiss, EMM, RUPES, SATA."

The 18 best young painters, all under the age of 30, demonstrated their talent in a wide range of demanding technical skills tests. These included the very latest high

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Perfection made simple



efficiency refinish technology, using R-M's waterborne paint line ONYX HD, as well as application and repair techniques, colour tests, a consultancy task and the correct use of consumables. The participants were representatives from Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, South Africa, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. The premium business partners 3M, DeVilbiss, EMM, RUPES and SATA, also actively support the contest with key speeches and the celebration of young talent, together with R-M's regular business partners including Festool, Horn & Bauer, Mettler-Toledo, Norton/StGobain, SIA Abrasives and Teroson.

On the last day there was also the "VIP Colour Task" which invited the finalists to demonstrate their own design paint scheme on a scale model car, employing the latest OEM colour trends. The contest reflects R-M's reputation as a premium automotive refinish paint brand and its passion for colour and design with experts from vehicle manufacturers and the world of design. Mark Gutjahr, Head of Design Europe at BASF judged this additional colour task on the day.

In the R-M Refinish Competence Center the new multipurpose DIRECTFILLER BLACK, WHITE and GREY, has been presented to the participants and media. The newly designed Colormaster as well as the new interactive colour application have been exposed. Entirely dedicated to the R-M premium brand image, the event debuted in the R-M CUBE – presenting the spirit of design and automotive colour trends, alongside shapes painted in CARIZZMA by R-M and the Citroën DS3 mat THP 155 SPORT CHIC.

Here comes the Judge!

The R-M International Best Painter Contest was presided over by a panel of judges, headed up by Ronny Raeymaekers, the R-M Refinish Competence Center Manager and consisted of highly experienced Global Trainers and acknowledged experts from the R-M Academy.

Ronny Raeymaekers, Jury President and Manager of the R-M Refinish Competence Center concludes: "I am very happy about the results with this great success of Ole Kristian Fureid, who represented Norway for the very first time in this competition. All finalists have shown strong determination especially as the competition was tough and the conditions unique. The entire R-M and jury team congratulates the winner and their teams."

Find all news and images on: <http://www.rmpaint.com/>

R-M Automotive Refinish Paints: an important part of BASF Coatings

Under the R-M brand, BASF markets a comprehensive range of automotive refinishing paint systems, focusing on eco-efficient waterborne basecoats and high-solids paints. By using these systems all legal solvent-reduction requirements can be complied with anywhere in the world, and with regard to appearance and resistance, the products meet the same quality standards as solvent-borne paints. In this area, the company offers a wide variety of services to support its customers. R-M Automotive Refinish Paints is approved by most of the leading car manufacturers for aftermarket repair and chosen by the world's most prestigious car companies for its color expertise.

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