

## Servicing and upgrading Toro Rosso's Vapormatt wet blasting machines to a 'like new' condition whilst boosting productivity.



Before this Italian Formula One team was rebranded to AlphaTauri, it was known as Toro Rosso. Owned and constructed by Red Bull, the team's involvement in Formula One can be traced all the way back to 1985.

Toro Rosso initially purchased two Vapormatt machines in the late 2000s – a Panther and a Vapormate. Having fully incorporated these two wet blasting machines into their racing car construction operation, they are primarily used to prepare composite materials, such as carbon fibre, for bonding. Wet blasting is known to be one of the most effective surface finishing methods for this as it can remove waxy residues left from the autoclave process and improve bond strength whilst not causing any damage to the fibres.

Both machines are designed to be compact, fully featured, and offer the benefits of wet blasting in a small footprint whilst also being energy efficient and achieving excellent results. Thanks to their advanced pump and nozzle system, they can work with a wide range of abrasive medias making the machines very versatile.

Both machines were running effectively enough to meet desired output, but with the development of new wet blasting components and technologies, Toro Rosso was interested in finding a way to further enhance their wet blasting systems. We were confident that servicing and upgrading the machines would boost productivity while also lengthening their lifespan.

Toro Rosso was on a tight schedule and needed as little disruption to their operations as possible. When discussing the logistics, we worked with Toro Rosso's team to find the best course of action. It was decided that the best option would be for them to ship the machines in succession to the Vapormatt workshop where we could quickly and more easily service the machines individually.

Both machines were completely upgraded with the latest filtration, guns, nozzles, and other components to the point where all the components combined resulted in machines that were in an 'as new' condition; additionally, they received a renewed warranty on both machines.

Once the machines had been tested to ensure they lived up to the Vapormatt promise, they were shipped back to Toro Rosso's facility where they are still in operation today. We also provided them with enough resources to help them be more self-sufficient with the running and maintenance of the machines which means they don't need to be serviced as frequently.