



### In This Issue

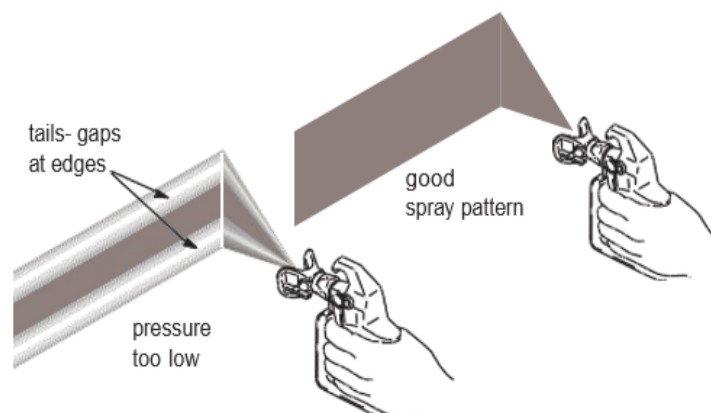
- *Air-Assist Spray Gun Technology*
- *FEATURE: Graco's PerformAA Air-Assist & Airless Spray Guns*

## Breathe Easy Air-Assist Spray Gun Technology

In the 1970's, air-assisted airless technology was developed to fill a need resulting from escalated material costs and the newly enacted Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations.

Air-assisted airless spray guns atomize fluid with a modified airless tip. They soften the atomization with small amounts of compressed air from a special cap. The result is a finely atomized spray pattern closely resembling that of a compressed air or HVLP system but with far less overspray and greater application speed.

Air-assisted airless spray atomization is created by hydraulic shear, which is less than airless so it atomizes the center of the pattern. The airless tip is used to determine the pattern size and fluid flow rate. Then air is applied to assist in filling out the pattern. An air cap is used to complete the spray pattern and eliminate the pattern defects also known as tails.





## Advantages

The primary advantage of air-assisted airless is its "soft" spray atomization. Atomization air pressures are usually under 20 psi, and as a result this system provides a fine finish with most coatings approaching that of compressed-air atomization. . Fluid pressures generally range from 200-5000 psi, therefore less wear on the pump and tip is to be expected.

Air-assisted airless technology provides approximately 30% improvement in transfer efficiency over compressed air. This means increased flow rates that allow spray into recesses and cavities without excessive bounce-back of material, resulting in less booth maintenance and clean-up time.

***Our partners at Graco recently launched their new line of PerformAA line air-assist spray guns. Read on to view the latest press release and product flier, or call your CIS service rep today for more information!***



PerformAA 15 Air Assist gun sprays at 1,500 psi for optimal performance at low and medium pressures.



PerformAA 50 Air Assist gun sprays at 5,000 psi for peak performance at high pressures.



PerformAA 50 RAC® Air Assist gun sprays with a Reverse-A-Clean® tip at 5,000 psi for high pressure applications.



PerformAA Airless guns are available at 1,500 psi for low viscosity applications and 5,000 psi for high pressure spraying.



From [MINNEAPOLIS--\(BUSINESS WIRE\)](#) July 27, 2021

Graco Inc., a leading manufacturer of fluid handling equipment, announces the launch of PerformAATM air assist (AA) and airless spray guns. The new line of manual and automatic applicators delivers performance above all with material-specific air caps and other features seldom found in AA guns commonly used in wood, metal and general industrial finishing.

“For a high-quality finish, one air cap does not fit all,” said Wendy Hartley, global product manager for manual finishing equipment in Graco’s Industrial Products Division. “To produce consistent atomization and a clean pattern when spraying certain materials, it's important to have air caps designed for them.”

Air caps geometrically designed for general finishing, wood lacquer, low viscosity, high viscosity, quick drying, top coat, and waterborne applications fit both manual and automatic PerformAA models.

At one pound (460 grams), PerformAA 15, 50 and Airless are the lightest manual AA spray guns available. Other operator-friendly features include:

- Ultra-light trigger pull to reduce fatigue and muscle stress
- Ergonomic handle and finger rest to fit comfortably in any sized hand
- Cartridge-style components that minimize maintenance downtime

PerformAA Auto is the only automatic air-assisted spray gun on the market with features that help operators and maintenance technicians set and quickly repeat exact air cap orientation. This is especially important in flat-line finishing automation.

“We observed people out in the field using protractors and levels to try to get air caps back to that same angle that they had originally,” said Bill Heuer, global product manager for automatic finishing equipment in Graco’s Industrial Products Division. “To assist in this, we created the Graco Gauge and added angle marks into the fluid housing on all PerformAA Auto guns.”

The Graco Gauge air cap alignment tool, plus the angle indicators, help save time and labor whenever air caps are cleaned or guns are serviced.



# PerformAA™ Air Assist Spray Guns

## Achieve Top-notch Results

- Variety of air assist gun models deliver high quality spray performance with material specific air caps and spray tips
  - Air caps designed for specific materials including general finishing, wood lacquer, low viscosity, high viscosity, quick drying and waterborne
  - Fine finish and pre-orifice spray tip design eliminates pattern streaks and delivers consistent, exceptional finish
- Superior transfer efficiency by atomizing at low air pressures
- Designed with operator comfort in mind
  - Optimized balance, trigger pull and ergonomics
  - Lowest gun weight on the market
  - Comfortable finger rest for balance
- Cartridge-style components make maintenance quick and easy with minimal production downtime
  - Fluid cartridge and air cartridge removed and replaced as one piece
  - Durable components for reduced maintenance cost

### PerformAA Airless Gun Models

Fine finish airless guns are available in two pressures for a variety of market solutions.



**5,000 psi model** is ideal for facilities that are using both air assist and airless applicators.



**1,500 psi model** is ideal for low viscosity materials including, for wood finishing, toners and stains.

### Minimal Downtime to Service

Air and fluid cartridges allow for one piece removal and replacement. For flexibility, components can be individually repaired.



AIR CARTRIDGE



FLUID CARTRIDGE

Fluid cartridge is made of durable stainless steel and has a reversible seat for easy assembly.

PROVEN QUALITY. LEADING TECHNOLOGY.



### Merkur® Air Assist and Airless Spray Packages

Paired with PerformAA air assist and airless spray guns, Merkur pumps can improve productivity, reduce costs, and provide consistent, high quality finishes for demanding applications.

- Low pulsation output and smooth pump changeover deliver a consistent spray pattern.
- Easy-to-flush design allows for fast color changes and low solvent use.
- Stainless steel pump construction provides long-lasting durability.



### Merkur® ES 'Efficient Sprayer' Air Assist and Airless Packages

PerformAA air assist and airless spray guns with Merkur ES pumps make one efficient spray package.

- The system uses 45 percent less material than comparable sprayers.
- Quick flush capability cuts flushing time to less than one minute.
- Compact size makes it easy to transport to small finishing jobs.



**AMERICAN BUILT QUALITY** — PerformAA spray guns are designed, manufactured, assembled, and factory-tested in the USA.

For more information, visit Graco's [website](#).



**COAST INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS, INC.**

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### COMPANY OVERVIEW

Coast Industrial Systems, Inc. is the #1 supplier of painting and coating application equipment to the marine and manufacturing industries, and is proud to serve both San Diego and Mexico since 1986.

Coast Industrial Systems, Inc. has always placed the customer first, and strives for business excellence in all ways. Our friendly sales and customer service staff are knowledgeable, experienced and qualified to help meet your painting and coating application requirements, and to exceed your expectations.



**Graco Top 20  
High-Protective Coatings & Foam  
Distributor Award Winner  
2010-2020**

