



AREWAY

— METAL FINISHING —

A PARTNER TO THE WORLD'S LARGEST OEMS

About Areway

Areway Metal Finishing is one of the largest and most technologically advanced metal finishing providers in North America. With more than 300,000 square feet of robotic and production space, and more than 100 highly experienced, full-time technicians, Areway partners with the world's largest OEMs and Tier-1 manufacturers, as well as many smaller companies, for unmatched operating efficiencies, quality and lead times.

The company provides a wide range of standard and specialty finishing services, including painting, powder coating, CNC machining, plating, buffing, blasting, polishing, product marking and inspection.



Areway Metal Finishing

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The Areway Metal Finishing campus is comprised of five facilities, with more than 300,000 square feet in the heart of the Great Lakes region. It is one of the largest and most technologically advanced finishing facilities in North America. The company's Cleveland-based team of more than 100 full-time, highly experienced technicians oversees a wide variety of finishing capabilities throughout seven acres of robotics and specialty finishing equipment.

Since 1967 Areway has been a major provider to the world's largest OEMs and tier-1 manufacturers, finishing a variety of metal parts, wheels and other components across multiple industries. Areway holds several patents for robotic buffing and plating processes for industries that include automotive, plumbing, medical, aerospace, government and defense.

Areway works closely with customers to optimize lead times, just-in-time warehousing, cost efficiencies, quality control and lean manufacturing. The company's

proprietary technology has earned key customers including Ford Motor, GM, Volvo Trucks, Harley-Davidson, Ferrari, Moen, ALCOA, General Electric and Medline Industries, as well as many smaller industries.

Areway maintains an in-house research-and-development laboratory, on-staff chemists and engineers and quality-control facilities. The company ensures the highest standards in compliance with a one-of-kind, on-site environmental lab and is certified ISO 9001:2015.

Areway's technicians average more than 12 years in the industry. The company's customer service team recommends full collaboration on every project to ensure all objectives are met. All customers are provided direct access to top management throughout the process in a customer partnership that is unmatched in the industry.

Areway's processes and work culture have enable customer and workforce-retention rates that surpass 98 percent, year after year.

COMPANY HISTORY

In the late 1950s, Sidor Hadgis immigrated to the United States from Greece and joined the U.S. Merchant Marines. He later took work in Cleveland with a metal fishing company, where he learned the trade and began refining the process for improved quality and greater operating efficiencies.

By 1967, Hadgis founded Areway Metal Finishing and later its affiliated companies – Yourway and Crown Metal Finishing – as a small polishing and buffing facility.

For nearly 20 years, the company steadily grew on its high attention to detail and family-style customer service. By 1987, Sidor Hadgis' son, John Hadgis, took over the business and began implementing new technologies, production lines, automation and research-and-development capabilities.

John's efforts grew the company's volume significantly, as the work started to attract many of the world's leading automotive OEMs, including Ford, GM, Ferrari and Volvo Trucks.

Today, John's son, Nico Hadgis, who represents the family's third generation, works alongside his father implementing industry leading practices, such as Lean Manufacturing and Six Sigma, as the company of more than 100 full-time technicians provides services to many of the world's largest OEMs.

The Hadgis family attributes much of its success to a blend of personalized customer service that started the business and modern best practices that advanced Areway to the next level. With more than 300,000 square feet of production space, company executives are passionate about the extremely dedicated and talented workforce, which enables the company to handle some of the largest and most complex projects in the world.





The Areway Process

Areway offers one of the most diverse service offerings of metal finishing in the industry, including highly customized programs and processes designed for each project. Projects typically include PCP process control, PFMA and a PPAP approval process. The Areway team is highly experienced in helping customers source raw materials and parts for finishing and later for final delivery through the supply chain. When customers work with Areway, they typically go through a five-step process:

1. Areway assigns a team to custom design and coordinate each project, from conception to final delivery and JIT management.
2. Customers collaborate on specific processes, quality control, overcoming challenges and project goals.
3. Areway creates prototypes and seeks approval through a PPAP system.
4. Areway runs all necessary testing for quality and AAR appearance standards.
5. Areway works with customers on shipping, warehousing and support for service and legacy parts.



Program Management – Complete Parts Solutions

Areway can manage complete sourcing from part concept and prototyping, to finished products, including design, manufacturing and metal finishing.

Areway even sources raw materials domestically and internationally, while helping customers manage vendors, subcontractors, shipping and supply-chain logistics worldwide. In many ways, Areway operates like a tier-1 supplier with complete sourcing, finishing and JIT warehousing. Areway maintains extensive partnerships with a wide range of fabricators, including:

- Stampers
- Welders
- Extruders
- Casting plants
- Billet machining
- Forging mills

BUFFING

Areway has developed one of the most advanced and high-volume buffing production lines in the industry. Capable of buffing 50,000 parts per week, the line is highly automated to ensure top-level efficiency, consistency and quality.

Robotic buffing not only increases speed and lowers costs, but the process has been developed to apply precise pressures to each part for maximum consistency – often in ways labor-intensive hand buffing cannot. For detailed applications that require manual buffing, Areway's 100-plus highly experienced technicians are some of the best in the industry.





POLISHING

Over the years Areway technicians and machine operators have met the challenges for finishing wheels through integrating hand and robotic polishing procedures. With our custom designed automated work centers, we can apply precise levels of pressure at specific RPMs at each station to create a highly consistent, desired finish.

The planning process is often a collaboration of customer OEM engineers and Areway engineers, through a highly transparent approach. Because Areway can polish more than 50,000 parts per week, the planning process is critical to ensure the best possible outcomes and consistency.



LIQUID COATING, POWDER COATING AND CLEAR COATING

Areway engineers create specialized coatings for automotive parts designed to resist heat and wear, protect the metal and create cosmetic appearances few finishing facilities in the world can produce. Areway's custom-designed automated line consists of 14 pre-treat stages, each with separate heating and environmentally safe cleaning solutions.

In-house chemists work with major coatings manufacturers to finalize each formula and ensure the most stringent operating specifications are met for each project. Masking templates are designed and developed inhouse, then applied to parts before coating to enable contrasting colors.

In the initial stages of the coatings line, parts are heated, rinsed and heated again with acid. The line moves to further rinsing, conversion coats, extensive surface prep and micro-etching. A sealant is applied, and the parts move to the dry-off oven, then to an automated paint booth and finally to cure ovens. All of the steps are monitored and recorded through a central quality-control station.

Areway has spent decades refining a process that is virtually unmatched in the industry, while managing some of the largest projects for automotive parts in the world. Areway's customers span North America, Europe and Asia.





ROBOTIC PAINTING

Areway recently developed a one-of-a-kind, fully automated custom paint cell with three Fanuc robots that can run multiple coats. The automated paint cell is the product of working closely with OEMs for years, who demand high levels of constancy, precision, efficiencies and cost reduction.



GRAFFITI PROOF COATING

Areway's proprietary paint coating process, Graffiti-Proof Coating, prevents brake dust from building up on the large truck wheels, while enabling brake debris to simply wipe off. This has become a favorite coating among larger OEMs.

The image shows a complex industrial plating facility. In the foreground, there are several large, rectangular plating tanks containing liquid. A yellow overhead crane system is visible, used for moving heavy parts. The facility is supported by a network of blue and yellow steel beams. In the background, more tanks and machinery are visible, along with a large cylindrical tank. The overall environment is industrial and well-lit.

PLATING

Areway maintains high-capacity, environmentally certified, automated plating lines capable of running more than 60,000 parts per day. Plating capabilities include hexavalent, trivalent, black chrome, nickel and copper plating. Areway is one of the few metal finishing facilities in the nation authorized by automotive OEMs to perform black chrome plating.

TRIM FINISHES

Areway maintains capabilities for a multitude of finishes for the automotive and marine industries.

Finishes include:

- Robotic satin clear
- Gloss polyester black
- Matt polyester black
- Polished and Buffed
- Black Chrome
- Traditional Hexavalent Plating



SATIN ACRYLIC CLEAR COATING

Areway has developed its own proprietary process for satin acrylic clear coating, which is applied to extrusions in robotic polishing cells. Each part runs through a 14-stage pretreatment process before acrylic powder is applied for the final finish. More than 1.5 million parts from this process are on the road today.

BLACK CHROME PLATING

As one of the few metal finishing facilities in the nation certified by automotive OEMs to perform black chrome plating, Areway's process meets the strict testing standards for a sophisticated and unique look.





Machining (CNC)

Areway maintains a full CNC machining facility, capable of turning ferrous and non-ferrous parts up to 43 inches with three, four and five axis machining. With robotic loading and unloading and CMM inspection, Areway ensures the highest efficiency, consistency and cost reductions.

Inspection

Areway maintains a high-capacity liquid penetrant inspection process on a monorail system to identify stress points and voids from the manufacturing process. All inspection processing is finalized with each customer before projects begin.

Product Marking

Often as part of a larger process, Areway can ink and etch a wide range of products and materials – all with custom specifications, including production markings, LPI identification, logos and branding for a variety of products, including truck wheels.

Testing Facility

Areway's testing facility includes a team of experienced engineers who specialize in meeting OEM high standards for quality control. Processes include:

- Surface tension release
- Liquid penetrant inspection
- Leak tests
- Akron standard
- Wheel balance
- CMM
- Trouble shooting



Just-In-Time Management

Areway works closely with customers to help manage supply chain logistics, while facilitating and managing inventory for just-in-time supply. Areway maintains more than 50,000 square feet of warehouse space and a team of inventory managers who assist with shipping logistics, inventory levels and projections.

Areway's supply chain support helps OEMs manage strategic supply domestically and internationally for greater cost efficiencies, reduced lead times and greater flexibility.

Industries Served

Areway finishes a wide range of metals, plastics and other materials for a variety of industries that include:

- Aerospace
- Appliance
- Automotive, Truck and wheels
- Cookware
- Electronics
- Medical
- Marine
- Plumbing

Some of the Largest OEMs in the world

Areway has been proud to partner with some of the largest and most prestigious OEMs, brands and suppliers in the world. The company's customer-retention rate is near 99 percent, as customers continue to return, year after year, for the high quality, fast lead times and cost efficiencies. Our customers have included:





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