



Car wash systems operating 24/7 – and the pumps cost less than \$50¹ per year to maintain!

The reliability and low-cost maintenance of Wanner's Hydra-Cell® pumps is being celebrated by some of the leading OEMs in the car wash manufacturing market. The pumps keep car washes around the world operating 24/7 and needing less than \$50¹ per year in servicing, whilst lasting for 10 to 15 years!!

Hydra-Cell's reliability is due to its patented design. This unique seal-less design delivers cost savings, with a reduction in energy of up to 70% - year after year, after year – in fact 15 years on average, with some pumps having a life span of over 30 years.

These are helping to ensure that vehicle wash systems consistently work at capacity, maximising revenue for the operators with no unplanned downtime. The beauty of the pump is that it can handle both fresh and reclaimed water, with entrained solids of up to 800 microns.

This removes any need for expensive pre-treatment of the water, such as fine filtration, to protect the pump.. It also reduces spares holding and simplifies maintenance.

Bill Wanner, CEO of Wanner Engineering, said: "Car wash manufacturers need to deliver a reliable, quality product. No one can afford to have down-time, especially those running car washes.

"Our pumps, working in all the major car wash manufacturers, are helping to deliver that reliability and high pressure cleansing no matter what the liquid. The Hydra-Cell patented design makes it unique – and we are looking forward to supporting our customers in this high growth market."

However, what does the industry think? Three of the leading car wash manufacturers, PECO Car Wash, Motor City Car Wash and AVW Equipment, which are installing thousands of systems around the world, give their views.

John Schram is the VP of Operations for PECO Car Wash Systems, a family owned business with over 50 years of experience in the conveyORIZED sector of the car market. The company has a team of around 50 engineers and support staff manufacturing a comprehensive range of car wash equipment. He commented:

"We use the Wanner pump in our conveyORIZED systems in a number of areas. Initially this was for prepping the vehicle with high pressure guns. We then also deployed the Hydra-Cell for all high-pressure oscillating arches and fixed high-pressure rinsing arches. They are an excellent product.

“Our systems have tens of thousands of components and the Wanner pump is one of the items we never have to be concerned about. Its reliability is a huge advantage in our marketplace, as a broken-down car wash will generate zero dollars.

“The Hydra-Cell is unique in the water that it can use. It doesn’t matter if it is reclaimed or fresh – the pump is equally good with both environments. They are trouble free, requiring minimum maintenance, which is phenomenal to us.

“We wanted a pump handling both types of water, so we don’t need a pumping station specifically for one type. We needed it to handle a broad spectre of applications and the Wanner pump does just that.

“The pumps’ reliability is shown by that fact we have some in operation for over 30 years requiring nothing more than proper maintenance. All they really require is the oil to be changed. Car wash systems need the high pressure and the Hydra-Cell delivers this on every occasion without fail.

Bob Wentworth, Motor City Wash Works (MCWW), another leading OEM, uses high pressure pumps. MCWW manufactures car wash equipment for tunnel car washes and sells through a network of distributors. He describes some of the technical advantages of the Hydra-Cell:

“We use high pressure pumps with our carwash systems. We have been using the Wanner H25 diaphragm pumps for about 25 years. The Wanner pump is a very forgiving pump in the sense that we use reclaim water which contains chemicals and small solids, which seems to have no impact on the performance or reliability of the pump.

“We probably use around 100 pumps a year and over the last 5 years we have only had a handful of warranty issues. A couple of nice features of this pump are there is no specific direction of rotation required to run the pump and they have also designed it to avoid pump damage when there is a lack of water that causes the pump to run dry.

“Wanner pumps end up being a very cost-effective product as the day in and day out reliability and lack of any maintenance required gives the operator more free time to do other things.”

The importance of downtime is emphasized by Bob Schaefer, who looks after sales and technical support for AVW Equipment, one of the major players in conveyerized car washes. It has been operating for 46 years and works across the globe. He commented:

“When you think that with some car wash operators, they generate one quarter of their profits over 12 Saturdays in winter. If the system is down for just two hours, that’s going to hurt badly in the pocket. And it’s not just the short term hit to revenue – it can also be long-term with damaged customer loyalty, customers looking for other car washes in the area.”

Mr Schaefer highlights that AVW systems minimise this issue by installing Wanner Hydra-Cells:

“The Hydra-Cell stands up to anything that it is in the water, from minute scale in clean city water to the chemicals in reclaim. Back in the day there was a lot of research into which was the best pump to use in car washes, which was the most reliable and the most efficient. Wanner came out on top and we haven’t seen that change.

“Looking at other pumps, generally you’ll be maintaining, repairing or rebuilding at least once a year. Wanner pumps will be in service for years before any replacement is needed. This is a very rare occurrence. They are really effective and efficient for high pressure rinses or undercarriage wash.”

For more information go to www.hydra-cell.co.uk/CarWash or visit stand 1.005 at Car Wash Show Europe in Amsterdam.

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Contact:

Billy McKenna, Aro PR and Marketing

t 01752 894 786

m 07930189404

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Notes to editors

1. 25,000 Hydra-Cell pumps have been installed over the years in the USA car wash industry. One carwash manufacturer calculates that over a 20-year period, maintenance, including an annual oil change and a complete liquid end replacement kit installed (as and when necessary), costs only \$50 per year.
2. 70% energy saving achieved when controlled with Wanner’s Intelligent Pump.
3. AVW is one of the major players in conveyORIZED car washes. It is 46 years and located in Chicago in the U.S., but operating globally global. AVW-Tommy International is the company’s European arm, headquartered in Athens, which works with distributors throughout Europe, Russia, the Middle East, and Africa.

Distributors in Australia and Japan round out its global presence. AVW is one of the major manufacturers of tunnel car wash equipment. Its market position is based on simplicity, enabling operators to avoid complex and frequent maintenance and adjustment to focus on car wash customers.

AVW equipment is known for its durability, dependability, simple operation, and low maintenance (hence, Wanner pumps). It maintains a “job-shop” capability to customize equipment to major customers’ needs and ideas, which is a major engine of our innovation.

AVW is known as the developer of the modern Wrap Around (the brush that goes across the front, down the sides, and across the back), the Belt Conveyor in car washing, the circular Mitter that mimics hand washing, adjustable angle brushes, and several other (now) industry-wide innovations.

The equipment is manufactured in stainless steel so it doesn't rust and lasts a long time, which enables it to frequently be taken out of old washes and be re-installed in the rebuilt wash. AVW is the preferred provider of equipment solutions to a disproportionate share of larger, highly successful operators.