

Press release

Armacell and Swiss CMT partner to accelerate development of PET-based particle foam

- ArmaShape is the first expandable particle foam entirely based on recycled PET
- Material property enhancement to provide easier and faster moulding into 3D shaped foam parts
- Armacell reinforces commitment to the development of sustainable product solutions

Luxembourg/Thimister, 27 February 2020 – Armacell, a global leader in flexible foam for the equipment insulation market and a leading provider of engineered foams, today announced the partnership with Swiss CMT, an engineering company with significant expertise in composite materials and technologies, to join forces in the development and industrialisation of ArmaShape, the first particle foam made from 100 percent recycled PET.

In this joint venture, the two companies focus on pre-coating ArmaShape loose beads with a hybrid resin system. The new approach of applying a thermally curable coating enhances the moulding process and provides permanent bonding and good adhesion to multiple materials, e.g. glass or carbon fibres and metal or plastic inserts.

“The core competency of Armacell is the extrusion of expandable PET with properties tailored for various industrial applications,” explained Dr Justyna Dolega, Global Innovation Manager at Armacell. “The development partnership with Swiss CMT provides us with additional product capabilities, providing easier and faster moulding into three-dimensional parts. Going forward, we can even better meet the expectations of our customers to create complex shapes for several application areas in the automotive, sports and leisure, and transport industries,” Dolega added. “This is our solution for cost-effective serial production of structural composite parts with the highest level of design flexibility and sustainable responsibility,” said Bart Janssen, Armacell’s Vice President of Engineered Foams.

Marcel Schubiger, General Manager at CMT, commented: “The new thermally curable and pre-coated ArmaShape solution allows for new multi-material combinations and paves the way to the next level of innovative lightweight design.”

Armacell’s latest PET foam innovation is designed to create complex, waste-free and ready-to-use 3D shaped foam cores for composite sandwich structures. It brings significant benefits to many industries where lightweight yet strong plastic parts are prerequisites for a successful product design. ArmaShape combines superior mechanical properties of structural foam cores with the advantages of particle foams. Made from 100 percent recycled PET, ArmaShape can be recycled again after its use phase, representing a highly sustainable alternative to comparable materials.

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About Armacell

As the inventors of flexible foam for equipment insulation and a leading provider of engineered foams, Armacell develops innovative and safe thermal, acoustic and mechanical solutions that create sustainable value for its customers. Armacell's products significantly contribute to global energy efficiency making a difference around the world every day. With 3,100 employees and 24 production plants in 16 countries, the company operates two main businesses, Advanced Insulation and Engineered Foams, and generated net sales of EUR 610 million and adjusted EBITDA of EUR 106 million in 2018. Armacell focuses on insulation materials for technical equipment, high-performance foams for high-tech and lightweight applications and next generation aerogel blanket technology.

For more information, please visit: www.armacell.com

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