

Chinese composite market remains top focus for Armacell

Thimister-Clermont, 10 February 2017 – Armacell announces that it will invest in a new PET foam production line in China, based on a consistently high demand for its ArmaFORM[®] PET foam products in the composite manufacturing industry.

Armacell's high-performance, cost-effective and sustainable PET-based core materials, marketed under the ArmaFORM[®] brand, are now manufactured in Belgium (Thimister-Clermont) and, before long, in Canada (Brampton). Additionally, the fourth PET foam production line in China is expected to be operational by the end of 2018.

For the past five years, Armacell served the Chinese market exclusively through the Sino Composite Co. Ltd. organisation. 'The cooperation with Sino Composite as a strategic partner represented a great opportunity for us to strengthen our presence and supported us in exploring new applications in new markets. It is time to expand our route to the Chinese composite industry and, as of now, to market and sale ArmaFORM[®] products through various supply channels,' says Henri Chapelle, GM Sales & Marketing PET Foams.

'With the ongoing growth in China's demand for lightweight composite solutions, we see this capacity expansion as a positive and necessary step toward assuring our customers of their continued access to our PET foam products,' comments Managing Director PET Foams, Thomas Kessel. 'The new production line is an important step in our global supply chain optimisation process, and it will allow us to offer a unique material at the cost effectiveness and supply flexibility that the Chinese composite market demands from us and for which we are known,' Thomas Kessel continues.

About Armacell Benelux S.A.

Armacell is a world leader in flexible insulation foams for the equipment insulation market and also a leading provider of engineered foams. In 2015, the company, currently with approximately 2,900 employees and 24 production plants in 15 countries, generated net sales of 540.2 million euros.

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Armacell Benelux S.A. is the headquarters for innovative and environmentally friendly structural PET foam cores for the composite industry, especially in target markets such as wind energy, building and construction and rail and road transportation. As a pioneer in the field of PET technology, Armacell was the first manufacturer to succeed in foaming high quality, bottle-grade PET on an industrial scale and qualifying PET foams for the composite industry. Armacell is the only manufacturer in the composite industry offering PET foam cores with consistent, reliable qualities, 100% made of post-consumer (recycled) PET material. For more information on ArmaFORM[®] PET core materials visit: <http://www.armacell-core-foams.com>

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