

New Developments for Mass Production of Epoxy Automotive Composites

Presented by Cedric Ball Business Development Manager – Automotive Hexion Inc. GALM Detroit 2016



Hexion is a specialty chemicals company with a leading position in the development and production of systems, products and services for the global energy, transportation and construction markets.

At a glance ...

Columbus, Ohio USA US\$5.2 billion 5000 Employees 60 Global Production & Technology Sites

Technology Platforms

Epoxy Phenolics Versatics™ Formaldehyde

Automotive Applications

Lightweight Composites Exterior Structural Suspension Under-the-hood Braking Coatings

Global Leadership Positions Across Our Range of Industries and Technologies





Products for Automotive Composite Applications

BAKELITE[®] Engineering Thermosets / Molding Compounds

- Water pump housings
- Vacuum pump housings
- Oil pump shaft, piston
- Variety of powertrain components

EPIKOTE[®] Resins and EPIKURE[®] Curing Agents

- Exterior panels
- Body structure
- Suspension components
- Driveshafts
- LPG, CNG and H₂ tanks









Auto Industry Imperative: Lightweighting to **K HEXION**[®] Meet Emission & Fuel Economy Regulations



Composite Materials Face Perception of **K HEXION**[®] Low Manufacturing Volumes and High Cost



Composite Technology Developments Have **K HEXION**[®] Enabled Mass Production of Automotive Parts







Composites: Offer highest weight reduction opportunities in automotive applications

Innovative Processing Technologies:

Enable mass production of automotive parts

Carbon Fibre Reinforced Plastics (CFRP) **HEXION**[®] Have the Highest Weight Reduction Potential

Part weight | % of steel 100 Steel **Typical Cost Build-Up** HSS 80 50% Material • 40 - 45% carbon fiber • 5 - 10% resin Plastics 80 **50% Processing** • Quicker curing matrix Aluminum 60 Process optimization Near-end-contoured preforms Automation Carbon fiber 50 20 40 60 80 100 \mathbf{O}

Sources: McKinsey Lightweight, heavy impact 2012, Roland-Berger, 2012

BMW 7-Series "Carbon Core" **X HEXION** Illustrates Body-in-White Mixed Material Use

BMW 7-Series SOP: 2015 Various CFRP Parts using Hexion resins e.g. roof arc and tunnel reinforcement



Benefits

- 40 kg weight reduction vs. steel in the Carbon Core body structure
- Fast curing cycle enabled by Hexion latest resin technology
- Multi material usage: engineered for performance

Source: BMW Group

Composite Technology Innovations Offer Cost-Efficient Lightweighting



Composites:

Offer highest weight reduction opportunities in automotive applications

Innovative processing technologies: Enable mass production of automotive parts

Epoxy CFRP with Resin Transfer Molding **K HEXION** (RTM) Technology for Structural Applications

Audi R8 Coupe and Lamborghini Huracan (MSS Platform) CFRP Transmission Tunnel ACE Advanced Composite Engineering GmbH EPIKOTE[™] Resin TRAC 06150/ EPIKURE[™] Curing Agent TRAC 06150



Benefits

- 30% lighter than aluminium
- Short cycle time production

of Highly Complex Structural Parts Lay-up binder stabilized fabric Fast handling Textile stability Heating and some pressure • Controlled permeability Thermal latency Low viscosity Mold closing and resin injection • Rapid fiber wetting Fast conversion Curing Isothermal Low exotherm Easy de-molding • Part quality **Opening and de-molding** Reproducibility

RTM Technology Enables Fast Production **X HEXION**

Epoxy Binders Address Preforming Challenges in Fast RTM





Benefits

- Faster handling / positioning of preform
- Controlled permeability and lay-up definition
- Textile stability at mold temperature during injection



Part Size and Equipment Determine the Material Processing Window





High Pressure RTM / LCM Process In-Production Examples



In-Production Examples 30 ◆ Structural parts ■ Exterior parts **BMW M Series** ▲ Suspension XBIW Curing time (minutes) **BMW** i-Series • 20 BMW 7 Series ۲ Porsche 911 GT3 CUP Porsche Boxter 10 Audi R8 Lamborghini Aventador minute automotive 0 industry target Volkswagen XL1 2000 2010 2015 2005 2020 Year (SOP)

https://youtu.be/qZrOxQ1V6bQ

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Resin cure time is no longer a limiting factor for support of series production.

Epoxy CFRP with RTM & LCM Technology **X HEXION** for Structural Applications

BMW 7-Series CFRP Roof Arc EP TRAC 06000/ EK TRAC 06130 BMW 7-Series CFRP Tunnel Reinforcement EP TRAC 06000/ EK TRAC 06130



Benefits

- Designed to the shape of the car body
- Fast curing cycle with HP-RTM
- Outstanding weight / performance ratio

Benefits

- Local reinforcement enhances torsional stiffness
- Fast curing cycle with LCM

LCM: Preforming is Simplified and Direct **KHEXION** Liquid Resin Application Shortens Cycle Time



Liquid Compression Molding (LCM) is Increasing Attractive for Complex Parts



X HEXION°

Part-to-Part Cycle Time of <1 Minute **X HEXION**[®] Demonstrated w/ Liquid Compression Molding



Epoxy CFRP with Prepreg Technology (PCM) for Semi-Structural Applications

Forward Light Holders CMP GmbH - UBC GmbH EP TRAC 06425/ EK TRAC 06465



Mini Front Wings CMP GmbH - UBC GmbH EP TRAC 06425/ EK TRAC 06465



Performance Benefits

- Lightweight versus steel
- Short cycle time (90 sec or 3–5 min)
- High mechanical performance
- High Tg



Processing Benefits

- Long shelf life at room temperature
- Easy and versatile molding
- In house prepreg as viable approach to further reduce cost

High Mechanical Performance is Achieved **X HEXION** with Prepreg Technology

Impregnation	•	Low viscosityNo VOCNo preforming
Fiber or Prepreg Placement		 Easy fiber positioning Stable band width Good fiber wetting
Cutting & Molding		Low scrap rateHybrid reinforcementFunctionalization
Pressing	*	Short in-mold cycle timesControlled flowNet shape
Part de-molding		 Low shrinkage Mechanical performance Reproducibility

EPIKOTE[™] Resin Systems Have Benefits in SMC





Epoxy Benefits versus Vinyl Ester and Unsaturated Polyester Resins

- VOC and styrene free
- Inherently low shrinkage
- Better mechanical strength properties
- Good adhesion to glass and carbon fibre
- Compatible with other epoxy material technologies
- Higher Tg
- Higher fatigue / durability performance

Improved Cost Efficiency of SMC **X HEXION** Technology: Net Shape Molding without Preforming

Component Mixing		Low ViscosityNo VOC (styrene free)
SMC Compounding	000000	Good fibre wettingPotential use recycled fibreFast maturation
SMC Cutting & Molding		 Lower scrap rate Hybrid reinforcement Functionalization
Pressing		Short in mold cycle timesControlled flowNet shape
Part de-molding		 Low shrinkage High strength/modulus Reproducibility

Optimum CFRP Performance and Cost 📜 HEXION" ... depend upon <u>all</u> 3 factors: Design **Materials Epoxy Resins: Equipment Suppliers Liquid Resins Reinforcement & Preforming** Hot Melts Part Design and Modeling **Perform Binders** Optimum **Process Design and Simulation Mold Release Agents** Performance **Tool Construction Prototyping Systems** and Cost \$\$ **Phenolic ETS Compounds Process HP-RTM** LCM Compression Molding **Injection Molding** Prepreg Performing Towpreg SMC FiWi

Optimum CFRP Performance and Cost ... depend upon <u>all</u> 3 factors:









Epoxy Glass and Carbon Fibre Reinforced Composites: Highest weight saving potentials

New generation resin systems: Faster cure cycles, easier demolding and more process versatility

Comprehensive component design and development: Will continue to decrease the cost of weight saving





Composite Application Technologies







Duisburg, Germany



London, ON



South Hampton, UK





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Thank You !

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