

PRESS RELEASE

AZL in cooperation with AVK – Federation of Reinforced Plastics

Aachen/Germany
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Call for Partners: Joint Market and Technology Study on Composites in Buildings & Infrastructure

In November 2016, AZL in cooperation with AVK will start a Joint Market and Technology Study on “New Potentials for Composite Technologies in Buildings & Infrastructure”. Companies along the value chain of the composites as well as Buildings & Infrastructure market are invited to join.

Buildings & Infrastructure are markets with enormous and growing potential for lightweight materials and related technologies. The new construction but also the rehabilitation and the renovation of existing Buildings & Infrastructure components will play a decisive role.

Dr. Elmar Witten, Managing Director of the AVK – Federation of Reinforced Plastics e.V.: “In 2015, 34% of glass fiber reinforced plastics on the European market were used in Buildings & Infrastructure composite applications. This market share is comparable with the largest sector for composites – the transportation sector which represents 35% of the European glass fiber reinforced plastics market. The Buildings & Infrastructure market has a big potential for growth and will offer new business opportunities for composites.”

Within a Joint Market and Technology Study, the AZL will identify new potentials for composite technologies in Buildings & Infrastructure. Drawing on technical expertise, but also a well-grounded knowledge of market specific information, AZL is determining where and with which applications, products, materials and production technologies new business opportunities will open. Therefore, AZL is creating and rating new scenarios for high potential applications and will provide necessary information to support product and service development of participating companies.

The 6-months study is designed as a joint study involving players along the value chain. This approach allows participants to benefit from the knowledge of all study partners and experts who are involved into the

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project. Study participants will be a direct part of the study and will be able to influence the progress according to their specific demands.

In two prioritization workshops, AZL together with the study partners determine the key segments as well as 100 technologies/applications with high market potentials. 10 of these will be investigated in detail including cost analyses. Dr. Michael Emonts, Managing Director of AZL Aachen GmbH summarizes the overall outcome of the study: “The study will comprise application analyses of 12 market segments, investigation of 100 applications, technology analyses of 25 highlight components and 10 detailed business cases. Besides requirement analyses for materials and production technologies, new concepts for efficient profitable production technologies are developed including cost engineering analysis.”

This approach has been successfully implemented within a branch independent joint study in 2013 with 34 participating international companies along the entire value chain. As a result from this first study, AZL set up its actual Partnership Network, various joint and bilateral development projects on the identified challenges as well as topic-related industrial workgroups with regularly semiannual meetings.

The Buildings & Infrastructure study will start in November 2016 and is open for all companies along the value chain of the composites as well as buildings & infrastructure market. AZL Partners and members of AVK companies will benefit from special conditions.

Interested companies can join by October 14th, 2016. Details on the study procedure and outcome as well as options for joining at this brochure are giving at this link: <http://lightweight-production.com/buildings-infrastructure-study/>

High-resolution pictures can be downloaded at this link:

http://azl-aachen-gmbh.de/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Pictures_AZL_PR_Build-Infrastr-Study.zip

Following pictures are available:



Picture 1: The growing market of composites in Buildings & Infrastructure is addressed in the upcoming AZL Joint Market and Technology Study.

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Picture 2: Dr. Elmar Witten, Managing Director of AVK – Federation of Reinforced Plastics e.V.

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Picture 3: Dr. Michael Emonts, Managing Director of AZL Aachen GmbH and CEO of Aachen Center for Integrative Lightweight Production (AZL) of RWTH Aachen University.

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About AZL:

RWTH Aachen University is one of the worldwide leading universities in the field of production technology. The Aachen Center for integrative Lightweight Production (AZL) of RWTH Aachen consolidates the lightweight expertise of eight partner institutes with 750 scientists on the RWTH Campus. The AZL builds an international partner network between these institutes and more than 70 international companies involved in lightweight production.

For this, AZL consists of two separate entities: The AZL of RWTH Aachen University addresses the transformation of lightweight design in mass production with basic research and development of lightweight products, materials, production processes and systems with access to the latest full-scale machines and automation systems. As a service provider partnering with companies in the field of lightweight production technology, AZL Aachen GmbH provides industrial services in the areas of engineering, consultancy and project management, networking and business development. With the AZL Partnership, the AZL Aachen GmbH enables the close cooperation between the lightweight industry and the research institutes of RWTH Aachen Campus along the whole value chain. The AZL Partner Network consists of more than 70 industrial partners representing the entire lightweight production value chain from the raw material producer, over molders, manufacturing equipment suppliers, Tier 1 and Tier 2 to OEMs, from SMEs to large multinational corporations, from Germany to Mexico, China or Japan, from 18 different countries in total.

www.azl-aachen-gmbh.de

www.azl.rwth-aachen.de

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About AVK:

The AVK, as the German professional association for fibre composite plastics/composites, represents the interests of producers and processors of reinforced plastics/composites on a national and a European level.

Its services include organisation of task forces, seminars and conferences as well as providing market relevant information (www.avk-tv.de).

The AVK is one of the four national pillars of the GKV – Gesamtverband Kunststoffverarbeitende Industrie and an international member of the European composites confederation EuCIA – the European Composites Industry Association.

The AVK is a foundation member of Composites Germany.

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