

Product Technik

Technical Report; keynote speech to the Society of Indian Automobiles Manufacturers conference on Composites in Automobile Manufacturing

Delhi 21/22nd August 2005

People involved

Balraj Bhanot (Director Automotive Research Association of India)
Dilip Chenoy (Director General Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers)
Dr K.C.Vora (Snr Assistant Director Automotive Research Association of India
Prof Huang Jiakang (Moulding Compounds Committee Director China FRP Industry Association)
David Skertchly (Product Technik Managing Consultant)



Introduction

The author was asked to address the above conference on European trends in the use of advanced composites in automobile production. This was prompted by 2 previous tours of Western India by the Author.

Keynote Lecture

A lecture was given by the author; supported by 76 slides and 2 videos. Topics covered were:

- Introduction
- Markets and applications;
 - Case study of the Porsche Carrera GT
 - Case Study of the Honda Pickup
 - Case Study of the TECABS project.
- Process studies including Injection Moulding LFRP, Thermoforming LFRP.
 - Case study of Thermoplastic Crash Structure manufacture in high volumes

- Case Study of Resin infusion for the production of class A body panels
- Process studies of RTM and pre-preg manufacture.
- Enabling Technologies:
 - Operator training and qualifications
 - Globalisation
 - Utilisation of technology for global manufacturing
- Potential of producing and Indian Super Car technology demonstrator.

Secondary Lecture

A secondary lecture was delivered by the author on the impact of the European recycling directives and opportunities for natural fibre composites. mostly in automotive interiors. This was backed up by and 11 slide presentation.

Conclusion

The attendees included lower level managers major Composites Companies.

The Indian economy is currently approx. the 10th largest in the world. It is the policy of the Indian Government that it will rate number 2 by 2007.



Above; the Conference location was also the home ARAI.