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EuPC Automotive & Transport Division Meeting - Nov. 16th 2015



On November 16th 2015 the Automotive and Transport (A&T) Division of EuPC will hold an Excom meeting in Brussels in order to discuss the latest regulatory issues and innovation in the plastics automotive and transport value chain. The following key topics on the meeting's agenda will be discussed: light weighting of motor vehicles, automation of motor vehicles, end-of-life solutions and the circular economy. The EuPC A&T Division holds an annual plenary meeting on the occasion of the EuPC General Assembly. The next plenary is due to take place in Lyon, France on June 2nd 2016 (more details will be available shortly on EuPC's website www.plasticsconverters.eu).

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European Plastic Fuel Tanks and Systems Manufacturers Association - PlasFuelSys



PlasFuelSys, the European association of Plastic Fuel Tanks and Systems, held its quarterly plenary meeting on September 24th. During this meeting, members of the EuPC sector group discussed the latest regulatory issues linked to vehicle emissions and the future for alternative fuels. Presentations were provided by the association of the electricity industry in Europe, EURELECTRIC, and the European Commission. PlasFuelSys is the representative organisation of plastic fuel systems providers for the automotive sector in Europe. Its mission is to represent and promote the interest of the Automotive Plastic Fuel Tanks and Systems Industry providing a common voice to the market and its institutions. Plastic fuel tanks provide light weighting, increased technical properties and increased safety in motor vehicles.

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New CARS 2020 Process



The European Commission will announce a call for applications for membership in a High Level Group to lead the new CARS 2020 process for the automotive industry. The High Level Group will include representatives from EU Member States, the European Commission and relevant stakeholders. The Group will aim at helping the automotive sector to face new emerging technologies and challenges, globalization and a new approach to mobility with an EU level coordination. Its first meeting is expected to be held before the end of 2015.

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ELV: Revision of Monitoring Guidelines



The European Commission is expected to come forward with a draft measure, before the end of 2015, amending EU rules on monitoring requirements for ELV (End of Life Vehicles) reuse/recovery and reuse/recycling targets, as set out in the ELV Directive (Dir. 2000/53/EC). The expected measure would amend Decision 2005/293/EC on the monitoring of ELV reuse/recovery and reuse/recycling targets, and set out a new methodology to monitor targets. The measure would follow the comitology procedure with scrutiny and is likely to be submitted to the Comitology committee (comprised of Member State experts) for an opinion before the end of 2015. If approved by the Comitology committee, the draft measure would then be sent to the European Parliament and the Council for scrutiny over a period of three months. Should no objections be raised by the Parliament or the Council, the measure would then be adopted by the Commission.

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EATS (European Automotive Trim Suppliers)



The automotive industry's trim suppliers have been working with VinylPlus to improve the recycling of their end of waste products. The main objective of this project is to reduce the landfilling of PVC sheet waste in Europe and to offer recycling solutions to their customers.

Following successful trials with Spanish recycler Tecni Plasper, the EATS member companies are now entering the development phase of the project in collaboration with Europe's OEMs (original equipment manufacturers). The next EATS meeting will be held on November 3rd and will decide how to best approach the development of this project for the years to come.

In order to showcase the possibilities of PVC in the automotive trim business and its efforts towards sustainability, a tour of outgoing EATS President Emmanuel Legrand's factory will be organized for journalists by the European Council for Plasticisers and Intermediates (ECPI).

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The VinylPlus Strategy Review 2015



On October 8 and 9, important discussions will take place regarding the PVC industry's voluntary commitment. It had been agreed that 2015 would be the year when to review the challenges previously set in 2010 and to verify whether some need to be adjusted. The VinylPlus members have been working hard to reshape the challenges geared towards 2020. The input of PVC converters is guaranteed via a draft position paper of the Vinyl Foundation board, which is composed of CEOs of PVC converting companies and VinylPlus board members. The ongoing discussions and legal uncertainty on the issues of waste classification will trigger discussions during the next board meeting. Converters wish to increase the advocacy work to find a stable legal environment in order to deal with legacy additives in PVC waste going to recycling. All efforts in the PVC value chain will have to be put together in the next months so that the industry may successfully implement its voluntary commitment by 2020.

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EC Regulation on reducing pollutant emissions from road vehicles



During a meeting of the European Parliament's ENVI Committee, held on September 3rd, members discussed Real Driving Emissions (RDE) test methodologies, conformity factors and levels. There was also an exchange of views with the European Commission to discuss delays in this proposal. These discussions relate to an eventual foreseen draft Report of the ENVI Committee, following a Commission proposal for a Regulation on complementary provisions to EU rules concerning Euro 5/6 and Euro VI standards, back in January 2014. The idea behind the proposal is to increase air quality in the EU by reducing light-duty vehicle emissions. Member State experts (Technical Committee - Motor Vehicles) voted in favour of the draft measure during a meeting held on May 19th 2015. The European Parliament will continue to work on this proposal in the coming months.

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Plast4future: Injection Moulding Production Technology for Multi-Functional Nano-Structured Plastic Components enabled by Nano Imprint Lithography



Micro- and nanometer structuring has proven to be an efficient method to functionalize surfaces, and is attractive to manufacturers of plastic products. The objective of Plast4future is to upgrade existing injection moulding production technology for the manufacturing of plastic components by enhancing the lateral resolution on free-form surfaces down to micro- and nanometer length scales.

The proposed technology enables functionality of plastic surfaces by topography instead of chemistry. This will significantly simplify the introduction of new products to the market, safer to produce and use. The proposed technology allows production of plastic surfaces with several different functionalities using the same material. The proposed technology will be developed to meet specific industry demands from partners representing the plastic industry including the automotive and lighting industries.

Automotive interior surfaces

Increased interiors plastic parts functionalities; direct injection moulding of nanofeatures at industrial level represents a great advance respect to the state-of-the-art technologies reducing production steps (energy and materials saving, reduced environmental impact) and costs.

Examples of innovative products:

- Easy-to-clean interior trims
- Interiors optical surfaces (anti-reflective, colours changing, iridescent)
- Soft-touching and sticking surfaces

Automotive Lighting systems

The production of thin free-form optical element by means of injection moulding is cost-wise beneficial: lower material volume and weight (up to 80% reduced material cost), faster production cycle due to thinner element and improved thermo-cycling.

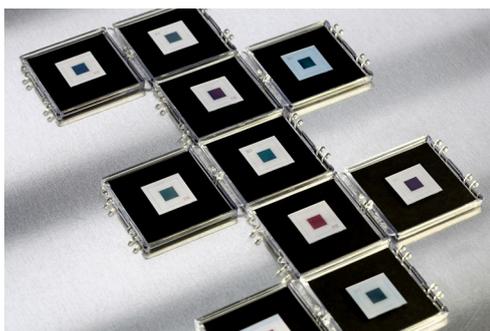
Example of innovative products:

- Automotive - 3D thin, lightweight and low power consumption courtesy lighting systems
- Optics for dashboard and headlamps (Anti-fog and antireflective)
- Backlighting light-guide/light-curtain.

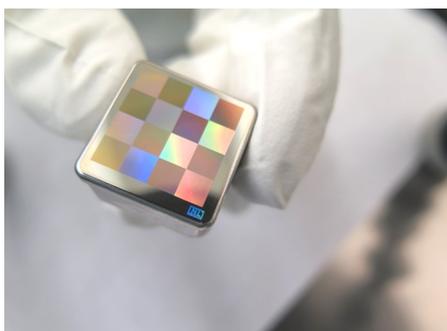
Plast4Future kindly invites you to its three European Workshops on Nanostructure injection moulding: [Plast4Future Workshops 2015](#).

For a detailed overview on the project, have a look at our brochure [here](#).

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Plast4Future develops new technology for upgrading and advancing existing injection moulding production technology for the manufacturing of plastic components by integrating state-of-the-art nanotechnology.



The new technology works by enhancing the lateral resolution on free-form surfaces down to micro- and nanometer length scales. This is achieved through the development of a complete nanoimprint lithography solution for structuring the free-form surface of injection moulding tools and tool inserts.

Upcoming Meetings

Packaging EXCOM	28 September <i>Brussels</i>
Steering Committee Meeting	29 September <i>Brussels</i>
Raw Material Committee	6 October <i>Brussels</i>
MEF Meeting	14 October <i>Brussels</i>
Waste Free Oceans Conference	14 October <i>Brussels</i>
NPA Meeting	15 October <i>Brussels</i>
EATS Meeting	3 November <i>Brussels</i>
A&T EXCOM	16 November <i>Brussels</i>
Packaging EXCOM	17 November <i>Brussels</i>
Steering Committee Meeting	18 November <i>Brussels</i>