

Press release

nova-Institut GmbH (www.nova-institute.eu)
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Wood-Plastic Composites show power in innovation: Six new WPC products from five different countries nominated for the “WPC Innovation Award 2013”

It will get exciting at Europe’s biggest conference on Wood-Plastic Composites (WPC), 10 December 2013. The 300 expected participants of the Fifth German WPC Conference (www.wpc-conference.com) will elect the winner of the WPC Innovation Award 2013 out of six nominated candidates. Just as last time, the prize is again sponsored by BASF Color Solutions Germany GmbH.

“The quality and the number of the submitted WPC products has never been as high as this year”, says Michael Carus, Managing Director of the hosting organization nova-Institute. Almost 20 submitted products from ten countries have been evaluated and selected by a jury of WPC experts. Six of them have been found especially innovative and are now nominated for the Innovation Award. On 10 December, the companies will present their new WPC products to a professional audience and ask them to vote. During the gala dinner in the evening, the award will be presented accompanied by music from WPC instruments.

The following companies have been nominated for the WPC Innovation Award for their new WPC materials and products, listed in alphabetical order.

You can find more detailed information about the nominated products on <http://wpc-kongress.de/award>. If you need printable pictures of the WPC products, please contact Mr Janpeter Beckmann at janpeter.beckmann@nova-institut.de.

1. Fasal Wood KG, Austria: Fasal for “My little World”

The Fasal WPC-Compound is used in a unique combination with real wood for an innovative system of wooden toys containing a variety of animal figures. The material offers a novel haptic experience for children. Injection moulding technology for the WPC parts offers attractive design options for wood and new kinds of products for the market.

2. Kappes Environment Technology Co. Ltd. (KET), China: ECOLIFE® - Planet Protecting Profiles

ECOLIFE® offers a PVC-free alternative for window frames made of recycled plastic. The novel combination of a co-extruded WPC-profile with a weather-resistant bonding (laminat) of a thin and coloured aluminium ribbon protects the profile from sunlight and rain. For the first time worldwide, a WPC window profile meets all complex technical demands. It was certified by the Chinese Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development in 2012, market entry of the window will take place in 2014.

3. Langmatz GmbH and SKZ KFE gGmbH, Germany: Structural foamed WPC for modular cable manholes

The new structural foamed WPC for modular cable manholes significantly reduces both the cycle times of production as well as the transport weight and offers easy assembly. Both partners worked together in order to develop a new WPC material that consists to a large extent of renewable resources (45% wood) and is suitable for the injection moulding of complex, foamed cable manholes with a lower density than the plastic alternatives.

4. IRPC Public Company Limited, Thailand: “Wonder Trix Track”, WPC interlocking bricks for construction play toys

"Wonderworld's Trix Track" creative gravity play toys are a new application of injected moulded WPC. The composite is made from recycled wood saw dust with different colours and polypropylene which gives the dimensional precision, fit of interlocks and long-term durability required for toy construction bricks together with a high level of environmental friendliness. The WPC bricks were launched to the world market during 2013.

5. Puustelli Group Oy Harjavalta, Finland: Puustelli Miinus kitchen system

The new WPC product, Puustelli Miinus kitchen carcass-system, consists of three frame components that are injection moulded using UPM Formi. The three components contain all holes, cavities etc., which allows making customisable arrangement, re-arrangement, updating and rebuilding of any complete kitchen furniture layout. The benefit is a 50% lighter carcass compared to typical chipboard cabinet. The carcass-system has a warranty of 30 years and is unique in its own product category.

6. RENOLIT SE, Germany: RENOLIT GORCELL thermoformable WPC-sheets

RENOLIT GORCELL is a thermoplastic lightweight panel with WPC-sheets on the top and the bottom, which are giving an aesthetical and natural character to the panel in addition of having high stability and stiffness. Further strengths are resource and energy efficiency due to the continuous inline-process in manufacture of the panels. A very good thermoformability, easy processability, resistance against water and various chemicals as well as a 100% recyclability are additional advantages of this new kind of WPC lightweight board.

Visit the “Fifth German WPC Conference” on 10 and 11 December in Cologne (www.wpc-conference.com) and elect the winner of the WPC-Innovation Award 2013. With 300 expected visitors, it is by far the biggest WPC Conference in Europe and the

meeting point of the industry. Simultaneously, Europe's biggest WPC exhibition will take place with already 30 confirmed presenters. Only a few booths are still available. In the afternoon of the second day, two premieres will take place: In the Maritim Hall, international plastic producers will present their newest WPC granules for injection moulding. Parallely, the workshop "WPC hands-on" will take place in the Heumarkt Hall. The workshop targets do-it-yourselfers, architects and tradespeople. Selected exhibitors and speakers will consult on how to process WPC applications such as deckings. After an introductory presentation, examples of good practice will be shown. The workshop as well as the whole conference have been approved as official training events by the architects' association of Germany.

Responsible under press legislation (V.i.S.d.P.):

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