

Press Release

nova-Institut GmbH (www.nova-institut.eu)
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Top Speakers on Wood and Natural Fibre Composites at the Sixth WPC Conference in Cologne

On the 16–17 December 2015, the largest conference on Wood-Plastic Composites (WPC) and Natural Fibre Composites (NFC) worldwide will take place for the sixth time in Cologne, Germany. A range of topics that address the whole scope of biocomposites will be presented by top speakers from the industry and research; nova-Institute has announced the first collection of speakers that have confirmed to present their latest products and innovations: Corbion-Purac (NL), FKUR (DE), Renolit (DE), Association of the German Wood-Based Panel Industry (VHI) (DE), Kompetenzzentrum Holz GmbH (AT), Fraunhofer Institute for Wood Research WKI (DE) and PolyOne (USA), Beologic (BE).

The conference is sponsored by Reifenhäuser Extrusion Technology GmbH & Co. KG (DE) (Gold) and Corbion-Purac bv. (NL) (Bronze). Coperion GmbH (DE) sponsors the "Wood and Natural Fibre Composite Award 2015", awarded during the Conference. More than 300 participants from all over the world are expected. www.wpc-conference.com

Construction and automotive represent the biggest markets for WPC and NFC today. These materials offer huge replacement potential in plastics and composites beyond established application fields such as decking and automotive interior. Bio-based raw materials lead to local added value through innovative production processes and products, but require a great amount of know-how for raw materials, processes, properties, recipes and application fields. The conference will provide an up-to-date picture of different technologies, promising applications and especially the WPC and NFC granulate markets and its current trends. For the first time, different providers of granulates with bio-based plastics, such as PLA, will be present, offering fully bio-based composites.

Huge percentage increases can be expected for WPC and NFC granulates used in injection moulding for all kind of technical and consumer goods. With improved technical properties, lower prices and bigger suppliers capable of supporting their customers, we forecast a growth from the tiny amount of 10,000 tonnes in 2012 to 100,000 tonnes by 2020. Additional incentives might, at least, double the production. By now, more than 60 companies offer WPC and NFC granulates for injection moulding and extrusion.

The highlight of the conference will be the "Wood and Natural Fibre Composite Award 2015". The Innovation Award highlights products that entered the market in 2015 or are just about to be launched. Producers and inventors of innovative, new applications for WPC and NFC are invited to hand in their applications to the "Wood and Natural Fibre Composite Award 2015" until mid-September (asta.eder@nova-institut.de). The jury of experts will nominate the six best candidates, which will be presented to the conference audience. The winner will be awarded in the evening during the gala dinner.

Beside the conference, the largest WPC and NFC exhibition in the world will take place. The following companies have already booked their booth: Corbion - Purac (NL), Beologic (BE), ENTEX Rust & Mitschke GmbH / NOVO-TECH GmbH & Co. KG (DE), Harold Scholz & Co. GmbH (DE), J. Rettenmaier & Söhne GmbH + Co. KG (DE), Kompetenzzentrum Holz GmbH (AT), WPC Plattform Austria (AT), Reifenhäuser Extrusion Technology GmbH & Co. KG (DE), Wöhler Brush Tech GmbH (DE).

If you are interested in joining, please contact Dominik Vogt as soon as possible:
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In June 2015 the nova-institute published a new version of the market study „**Wood-Plastic Composites (WPC) and Natural Fibre Composites (NFC): European and Global Markets 2012 and Future Trends in Automotive and Construction**“. All registered conference participants will receive, after booking, a 30% allowance code for the most comprehensive WPC/NFC study.

Learn more about the study and download a short version for free at <http://bio-based.eu/markets/#ms-wpc-nfc>

Please find more information on the WPC Conference, Cologne, at wpc-conference.com

The following nova conference team members are at your disposal:

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