

Global technical textiles business update, February 2020

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Abstracts

This report provides a round-up of recent corporate developments in the global technical textiles sector, including: acquisitions, divestments and mergers; business news; investments; and joint ventures. The report contains news relating to the following innovative companies and other organisations: 4M Carbon Fiber, Adidas, Ahlstrom-Munksj?, Asahi Kasei, Austrian Fibers Institute (AFI), BMW Group, Carbon Conversions, Carbon Revolution, Coats, Continental Structural Plastics (CSP), Dell, DuPont Biomaterials, Fibre Extrusion Technology (FET), Fitesa, Freudenberg Group, Henkel, Honeywell, Hyundai Motor Company (Hyundai), Johnson & Johnson, Lenzing Group (Lenzing), Mannington Mills, Montefibre Carbon, Pharr, Pharr Fibers & Yarns, Pharr High Performance (Pharr HP), Phenix Flooring, Plastic Omnium, SGL Carbon, Terrafilum, the University of Sheffield, Vitrulan Composites and XG Sciences.

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SUMMARY

ACQUISITIONS, DIVESTMENTS AND MERGERS

Fibre-based products manufacturer Ahlstrom-Munksjö is to divest its glass fibre reinforcement business to Vitrulan Composites

Freudenberg Group has acquired the activities of start-up company Frictins

Freudenberg Group has divested its South American hygiene nonwovens business to Fitesa

Industrial thread company Coats has agreed to acquire high performance engineered yarns maker Pharr High Performance (Pharr HP)

Textile products manufacturer Pharr is to sell its flooring divisions to Mannington Mills

BUSINESS NEWS

Adidas is to close its Speedfactories in Germany and the USA

Austrian Fibers Institute has announced plans for its first satellite event to be held in Asia

Continental Structural Plastics (CSP) is investing US\$70 mn in the construction of a new manufacturing facility in Seguin, Texas, USA

Fibre Extrusion Technology (FET) has won a grant from Innovate UK for a research and development project relating to hollow filaments

Johnson & Johnson will settle multiple lawsuits alleging deceptive marketing of surgical mesh devices

Plastic Omnium has won a significant order for the development of carbon fibre reinforced plastic (CFRP) hydrogen storage tanks for use in buses

The University of Sheffield has opened a new Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) in Wales, UK

INVESTMENTS

Automotive materials and components supplier Asahi Kasei has opened a North American office

BMW Group has invested Euro400 mn in its plant in Dingolfing, Germany, in preparation for the production of the iNEXT electric vehicle

Honeywell is to increase its capacity for producing Spectra ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene (UHMWPE) fibre

JOINT VENTURES

4M Carbon Fiber and Montefibre Carbon will enter into a partnership to produce the world's cheapest industrial-grade carbon fibre

DuPont Biomaterials and Lenzing Group (Lenzing) have collaborated in the development of an environmentally sustainable fabric collection

Graphene nanoplatelet manufacturer XG Sciences and additive manufacturing (AM) filaments producer Terrafilum will jointly develop, produce and sell filaments and coatings enhanced with graphene-based materials

Henkel and Carbon Revolution have reached a strategic material supply agreement

Recycled carbon fibre specialist Carbon Conversions is working with Dell to create carbon fibre reinforced plastic (CFRP) covers for laptop computers

SGL Carbon and Hyundai Motor Company (Hyundai) will extend a supply agreement relating to fuel cell components

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