

PLASTIC OMNIUM WINS AWARDS FOR ITS INNOVATIONS IN THE FIELD OF COMPOSITE MATERIALS WITH PSA PEUGEOT CITROËN AND HYUNDAI MOTOR EUROPE

On March 10, Plastic Omnium will receive two “Innovation Awards”, from JEC, the world’s largest composite materials industry organization, for two innovations developed jointly with partners, one with PSA Peugeot Citroën and the other with Hyundai Motor Europe.

JEC will present 18 prizes on that day, each one honouring an equipment category. Plastic Omnium will receive awards in two categories:

- In the Automotive Body-in-White category, Plastic Omnium and PSA Peugeot Citroën have developed a solution replacing the traditional steel underbody with a self-supporting thermosetting resin floor reinforced with fiberglass. This notably reduces the number of parts to be assembled from more than 30 to just 4 main components and gives a weight reduction of 8 Kg for a mid-range model. This technology is compatible with the systems used to assemble car bodies and can be used for a multi-material approach with steel;
- In the Automotive Safety category, Plastic Omnium has developed a front impact beam for Hyundai Motor Europe that is 43% lighter. This represents a weight saving of 3.7 kg compared with the same part made of sheet steel. A new technology combining a pultruded fiberglass and carbon fiber reinforcement overmoulded with a thermoplastic resin makes it possible to achieve high levels of performance at a competitive price.

These two innovations provide the same level of impact resistance as current parts made of metal.

The aim is to equip a first Hyundai vehicle with this new impact beam by 2017. The innovation could then be used on future vehicles.

The PSA front floor equipped the Peugeot 208 Hybrid Air and Citroën C4 Cactus Concept Airflow prototypes showcased at the Paris Motor Show in October 2014. The first applications envisaged could be unveiled in 2020.

Furthermore, in a few months’ time Plastic Omnium will launch the production of its first composite recycled carbon fiber-based structural part for a leading European carmaker.

Through its work on new generations of high-performance plastics and recycled carbon fibers, Plastic Omnium is endeavoring to make composites increasingly accessible for mass production applications in the automotive industry.