First-rate compounding and problem-solving from a single source

TechnoCompounds' modern plant is provided with the latest equipment for compounding, enhancement and modification of all types of polymers

A polymer is a substance composed of individual molecules. Today, there are a large number of commercial polymers, including composite materials that combine the best properties of their various components. Further processed, these polymer compounds can end up as anything from mobile phone casings to automotive plastic door modules, depending on their individual composition. TechnoCompound GmbH, a leading supplier of tailor-made technical compounds to the plastics processing industry, covers the entire range. The company's core competence lies in providing a specific compound, with exactly the right characteristics, required for an individual application. Besides creating first-rate, tailor-made plastic compounds, the innovative company specialises in on-site application consulting. For its customers, this means they get individual compounding and problem-solving from one single source.

Managing Director Hans-Dieter Voss

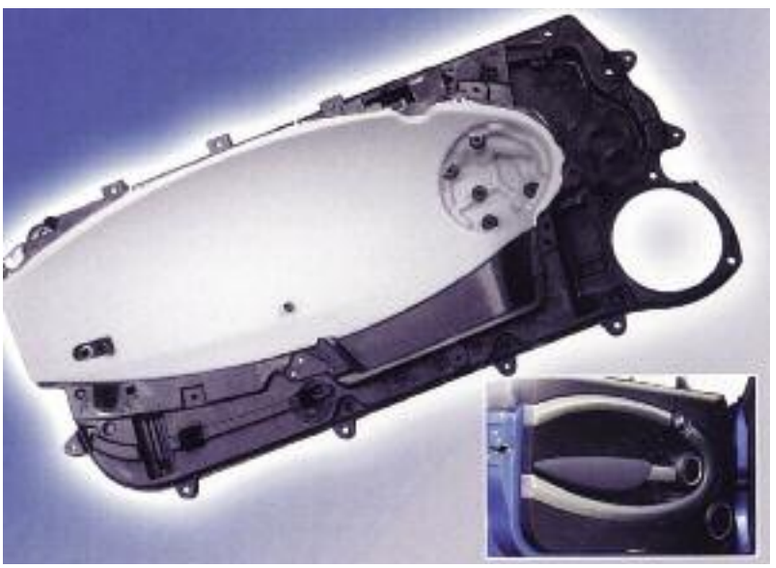
Heralding creativity and innovation in plastics, TechnoCompound is a leading supplier of tailor-made technical compounds to the plastics processing industry. The modern plant in Bad Sobernheim, Germany, is provided with the latest equipment

30 years of experience in producing sophisticated plastic compounds for all current applications. Nevertheless, it is a young business which was only established in December 2005 as a spin-off of Polymer Group, a company which is also

Europe's largest processing companies for plastic compounds. In addition to compounding, the company enhances and modifies polymers, sees to customer-specific development projects, and develops new, innovative compounds of its own.

hensive range of technical compounds which meet all individual demands, from excellent surface quality, chemical resistance and dimensional stability to conductivity, durability and flame retardance. The offering splits into six main

TechnoCompound is engaged in constant research and development to make sure its customers are always one step ahead



The plastic door modules for the new BMW Mini are made from custom-engineered TechnoCompound glass-fibre reinforced polypropylene

for customer-specific compounding, enhancement and modification of all types of polymers. The company's state-of-the-art laboratory is engaged in constant research to develop innovative, new product solutions and, ultimately, to make sure its customers are always one step ahead. Besides custom-engineered manufacturing, TechnoCompound specialises in on-site application consulting. "For our customers, this means individual compounding and problem-solving from one single source," says Managing Director Hans-Dieter Voss. TechnoCompound has more than

situated in Bad Sobernheim. Founded in 1973, the privately owned and independent group has an annual compounding capacity in excess of 170,000 t and employs over 500 people in four separate organisations. All four specialise in plastics processing, compounding, extrusion and moulding. "The spin-off was implemented to provide TechnoCompound with a more neutral market position as we also work for other polymer producers," Mr. Voss explains the step. Today, with an annual production capacity of more than 45,000 t and 70 employees, TechnoCompound ranks among

"One of our latest creations, which we developed in our own laboratory, is a new glass-fibre reinforced PET compound which includes a halogen-free flame retardant," Liborius Flöper, head of marketing, provides an example for TechnoCompound's outstanding development capabilities. To meet its customers' rigid quality demands, TechnoCompound processes top-class raw materials only. "This is how we guarantee products which meet our customers' ever-increasing requirements regarding processing quality, performance and durability," states Mr. Voss. TechnoCompound offers a compre-

product lines: TechnoFiber, TechnoPet, TechnoMid, TechnoDur, TechnoElast and TechnoFin. TechnoFiber is a long glass-fibre reinforced thermoplastic ideal for manufacturing components which are exposed to extreme mechanical stress and high temperatures. Typical applications include automotive battery holders, frontends, casings for power tools and snowboard bindings. TechnoPet distinguishes itself by its superior dimensional stability and good electrical insulation power. It is typically used in the automotive industry as a substitute for PA, as lamp holders and power

For the K 2007 in Düsseldorf, the world's premier meeting place for the plastics industry, TechnoCompound designed a completely new exhibition stand

Company profile in brief

Market Position

- Leading supplier of tailor-made technical compounds to the plastics processing industry

Core Competence

- Providing a specific plastic compound, with exactly the right characteristics, required for an individual application

Main Product Lines

- TechnoFiber
- TechnoPet
- TechnoMid
- TechnoDur
- TechnoElast
- TechnoFin

Facts & Figures

- Year of foundation: 2005
- Parent company: Polymer-Chemie GmbH, Bad Sobernheim
- Turnover: 30 million EUR
- Employees: 70
- Annual production capacity: over 45,000 t

sockets, and in household appliances. TechnoMid offers high damping characteristics as well as outstanding weather and light resistance. These traits make the special compound the ideal solution for all technical applications, ranging from automotive fans to vacuum cleaner housings. TechnoDur is extremely hard and offers very favourable sliding and wear characteristics. "TechnoDur is primarily used in electrical engineering, car manufacturing and the production of household appliances," states Mr. Voss. TechnoElast features outstanding insulation and absorption properties as well as elastic memory. Typical fields of application include automotive components as well as electronics. Last but not least, TechnoFin provides variable flow behaviour and good workability. The unique compound is typically applied in mechanical and electrical engineering, car manufacturing and furniture making.

All technical compounds are tailor-made products manufactured according to the customer's individual requirements. Among the flagship products of TechnoCompound are the company's long glass-fibre reinforced thermoplastics. Thanks to their superior rigidity, they are an ideal substitute for light-weight metals or thermo-set plastics. "With our long glass-fibre reinforced compounds, we operate in a high-growth market with a large potential," says Mr. Voss. "With their extreme stiffness, these materials open up completely new areas of applications, areas which until recently had been deemed unthinkable," adds Mr. Flöper. One of these areas is the automotive industry, TechnoCompound's main target market. For the current year, the company aims at 30 million EUR in revenues, with the trend pointing further upwards. 40% of the custom-made compounds go abroad; the main export markets are Western Europe, followed by Asia, the United States and Eastern Europe with the Czech Republic, Poland and Romania. "We base our success on the rather small size and the flat hierarchies of our company which, as an independent organisation, is integrated into a larger group which offers significant synergies," Mr. Voss describes the success factors of TechnoCompound. "In addition, we are highly application-oriented and are constantly adapting our products to the changing demands of the market. And we also have the capacity to bring new product ideas to the market in a competitive manner." ■

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