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JEC Asia Innovation Awards 2009

JEC Composites is announcing the new winners of the JEC Asia Innovation Awards Programme 2009. This year, 9 companies and their 15 partners will receive awards at the JEC Asia Composites Show (October 14-15-16, 2009 Singapore). The programme was created in 1998 with the goal of promoting innovation.

“Through this programme, the JEC Group projects and promotes successful innovation strategies onto the international scene throughout the year”, explains Frédérique Mutel, JEC President and CEO.

This top-level competition for Innovation is a focus of attention in the international composite market. It is supported by major companies and trade magazines in the industry that are committed to the development of composite innovation.

Each year, a jury of renowned international experts chooses the best composite innovations, based on their technical interest, market potential, partnership, financial impact and originality. The 2009 jury is composed of 13 international composite experts: Alan Chen -Topkey Corporation (Taiwan), Ebrahim Ghavamshahidi (Umeco Composites - United Kingdom), Peizhi Gu (China Composites Group Corp - China), Frédérique Mutel (JEC Group – France), Kanemasa Nomaguchi (JRPS International Exchanging Committee - Japan), Hariharan PV's (Agro-Biogenics - India), Murray Scott (CRC Composites - Australia), Dr. A.Selvam (FRP Institute - India), Henry Shan (Cell Power Co., Ltd - Taiwan), Ravi Shrivastava (Kineco Pvt. Ltd - India), Narasimalu Srikanth (Vestas - Singapore), Tong-Earn Tay (National University of Singapore - Singapore) and Jung Seok Kim (Korea Railroad Research Institute - Korea).

Since the last past 4 years, UMECO Composites (Official Partner) has been actively supporting the JEC Innovation Awards competition: “We work very closely with JEC and we have been supporting the JEC Innovation Awards for the last four years, not only in Europe but also in Asia. The industry has built its success on technical innovation and JEC is doing a fantastic job in promoting innovation for the industry; This is a great opportunity for engineers throughout the industry to collaborate and to gain recognition for the new ideas that they are promoting in terms of solutions for technical and commercial issues. We are very pleased to be an active supporter of these Innovation awards.”. Andrew MOSS, Chief Executive, Advanced Composites Group.

These awards have also been supported by many prestigious companies such as C.A. Litzler, Cray Valley, Cytec Engineered Materials, Diatex, Dow, DSM Composite Resins, Hexcel, Huntsman Advanced Materials, Menzolit, Nanoledge, Owens Corning OCV Reinforcements, Polynt SpA, RocTool, Soficar – Groupe Toray, SGL Group, Ticona, Vestas and Virtek Aerospace.

This year, the winners were selected from the following categories: Environment and Recycling, Raw Materials, Process, Automation, Aerospace, Building and Construction, Sports and Leisure and Transportation. The decision to give prominence to these projects was based on their atypical nature and various noteworthy aspects. Read through the trade description to discover the 9 winners. The 2009 JEC Awards ceremony will take place on Wednesday October 14th at 5:00 pm on the JEC Show and will be open to all visitors (free access).

More about this

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Category: Raw Materials

A ground-breaking material endowing composites with high fire-resistant properties

Winner: Regina Glass Fibre Pty Ltd. (Australia)

Partners: CRC-ACS (Australia) and Ampelite (Australia)

FireShield® is a chemically loaded surface tissue that can be added to any composite laminate during manufacture to provide fire-resistance. Using this product as a normal surface tissue, the manufacturer produces a fire-resistant laminate. When FireShield® is used as the exterior ply in a composite laminate, the halogen-free fire-retardant chemical is placed just beneath the surface, where it is most needed. This approach to providing fire resistance does not require any special fire-retardant resins, and thus allows standard laminating resins to be used to manufacture composites that meet international fire standards. When exposed to flame, FireShield® produces a well-bonded charred layer on the surface of the product.

This insulates the product and inhibits the passage of oxygen, thereby smothering the flame. Furthermore, the environmental problems caused by the use of halogenated systems are avoided. The use of standard resins means that laminate manufacture is straightforward, material costs are lower, and

there is no compromise in the strength or stiffness of the composite laminate. Although non-woven glass tissue provides the lowest-cost fabric for the FireShield® technology, carrier fabrics of other fibres such as polyester or carbon, either woven or non-woven, can be used to meet specific engineering design requirements.

Manufacturers do not need to modify processes or train staff in order to produce composite structures that meet international standards for flame, smoke and toxic gas emission. They can use their normal manufacturing processes and resins. This opens the door to companies of all sizes to participate in the fire-protection field without further capital investment. In most cases, laminate cost is lower than for alternative ways of achieving the same degree of fire protection.

With increased emphasis on flame, smoke and toxicity performance of composite structural materials, particularly for mass transit and building applications, the market potential is seen to be substantial.

Other finalists in the Raw Materials category:

- A novel structural core composite materials for components of the auxetic type, presented by Chismatech (Italy) with its partner University of Catania (Italy).
- Reinforced composite rebar presented by EG Intellectual Asset Creative Development Co Ltd. (Taiwan) with its partner Rockey Ho (Taiwan).
- Lamilux's heatable GRP presented by Lamilux Heinrich Strunz GmbH (Germany) with its partners Frenzelit (Germany) and Stadur (Germany).