



AIREX BALTEK BANOVA

Sins, Switzerland; 6th March 2015

PRESS RELEASE

3A Composites invests into new foam core extrusion line in the USA

Brisk demand and the launch of the new product AIREX[®] T10 stand behind 3A Composites' decision to invest in a new extrusion line in the USA to increase the capacity of their extruded AIREX[®] core materials and spread their production foot-print globally.

3A Composites Core Materials reports that it will further expand the production capacities of their AIREX[®] PET core materials. In addition to the ongoing expansion of the extrusion capacities in Switzerland, the company is now installing a new extrusion line at its US production location, which is to be operational in Q4 2015.

Consistent high demand and the planned growth of their current customers as well as new markets and applications are behind the growth plans, which are further fuelled by the introduction of their new product AIREX[®] T10, which is expected to accelerate the growth of extruded PET-based core materials versus other polymer cores. Growth for extruded AIREX[®] core materials is identified in the marine, aerospace and wind energy and markets as well as in the transportation and automotive industry where composites are increasingly used.

Roman Thomassin, CEO of 3A Composites Core Materials, says: "Our new global production set-up with significantly increased capacities will form the basis for the successful growth of our business and our customer base. The state-of-the-art production equipment combined with the industrialized direct extrusion technology GEN2 will allow us to offer high-quality PET-based core material solutions at the cost effectiveness and supply flexibility that our markets demand from us, globally."

Bottle-grade PET-based core materials have been increasingly used in myriad applications. Besides being recyclable and recycled, their growth is mainly attributed to the excellent price/performance ratio in the end application and the simplicity of the material's application. The material is produced in a continuous extrusion process, which assures a consistent, high quality while offering a very high level of automation.



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About 3A Composites Core Materials:

3A Composites Core Materials is a global organizational unit within 3A Composites, with operations in Europe, North America, South America, India and China. The branded products AIREX® and BALTEK® have pioneered the sandwich technology for almost 70 years. Fabricators use these core materials to make innovative, lightweight sandwich structures for the wind energy, marine and transportation markets as well as other industrial applications. 3A Composites Core Materials is the global leader in answering the markets' and users' needs for sustainable, lightweight and resource-friendly materials to enable the production of lighter and thus more energy efficient end products. In the wind energy market, its core materials are a key factor for growth in the generation of renewable energy.

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