

LANXESS at Fakuma, Messe Friedrichshafen, Hall B4,  
Stand 4302, October 18 - 22, 2011

### **Focusing on lightweight construction and electromobility**

**Leverkusen** – Specialty chemicals company LANXESS is focusing its presentations at Fakuma on composite lightweight construction solutions for vehicles and flame-retardant materials for electromobility. The international trade fair for plastics processing will be held on October 18 to 22, 2011 in Friedrichshafen, Germany. “Our presentation on the Durethan and Pocan high-tech plastics will highlight the comprehensive package of services we offer customers under the HiAnt name. We’re looking to highlight the benefits for customers who harness our know-how in materials, simulation methods, design, manufacturing processes and application technologies,” said Lars Kraus, head of Technical Marketing Services in the Semi-Crystalline Products business unit.

#### **High-precision simulation of draping of nylon composite sheets**

The latest example of the expertise behind HiAnt is the breakthrough in forming long glass-fiber reinforced organic sheets. LANXESS can now simulate this complex process and calculate the orientation of the glass fibers after forming. This is a prerequisite for achieving high-strength, lightweight nylon composite hybrid structural components such as car sills and B pillars in a subsequent injection-molding stage using polyamide. “We expect lightweight nylon composite hybrid components in the automotive industry to be in many cases a cost-effective alternative to carbon-fiber-reinforced thermoset components,” said Kraus. At Fakuma, LANXESS will be showing a HiAnt support in an nylon composite sheet hybrid construction and series parts such as front ends and spare wheel recesses that underline the company's innovative expertise in lightweight construction.

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### **Polyamide also used for truck engine oil pans**

Another Fakuma highlight from LANXESS is the largest ever truck engine oil pans made of polyamide 6 and 66, which are used in the 12.8 liter Euro 6 engines for the Mercedes Actros trucks from Daimler. "We provided comprehensive support to our partners as part of HiAnt to develop Durethan oil pans, thereby helping to make the project a success," said Kraus. In this kind of application, polyamide offers an alternative to aluminum, sheet steel and sheet molding compounds (SMC).

### **Flame-retardant thermoplastics for electric cars**

Use of flame-retardant plastics in electric cars is expected to increase, owing to the high currents and voltages in the area of the battery and drive. This trend will be reflected at the LANXESS stand with a battery disconnect unit that cuts the flow of current from the battery to the electric motor in the event of a crash. This unit is made of a low-distortion, reinforced, highly effective flame-retardant Durethan polyamide 6. A control unit made of Pocan B 4235 polybutylene terephthalate (PBT) for automatic start-stop systems in cars will also be on show.

### **Rising demand – PBT for truck add-on body parts**

Various PBT compounds for moldings in truck cabs are a further area of focus for LANXESS. "Our materials are frequently an alternative to SMC or metal for manufacturing fenders, radiator grilles, wind deflectors and access steps, for example. This is because they result in components that do not require reworking, generate little waste, involve short cycle times, often weigh noticeably less and, depending on requirements, can also be used without a coating, thanks to their excellent surface quality," said Kraus.

LANXESS is a leading specialty chemicals company with sales of EUR 7.1 billion in 2010 and currently around 15,800 employees in 30 countries. The company is at present represented at 46 production sites worldwide. The core business of LANXESS is the development, manufacturing and marketing of plastics, rubber, intermediates and specialty chemicals. LANXESS is a member of the leading sustainable indices Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) World and FTSE4Good.

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## News Release

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