

New simulation solution for use on customer premises:

Modeling your own Tepex components

Plug-in available for standard CAE codes

Cologne – As part of its HiAnt service package, LANXESS offers customers a new simulation solution that they can use in their own CAE environment to design the mechanics of components made from high-performance Tepex continuous fiber-reinforced thermoplastic composites. The solution was developed in cooperation with e-Xstream, producer of the commercial CAE software Digimat. “Now we can provide our customers with a high-quality material model for designing Tepex structures, which as a plug-in can easily be integrated in their own software environment. The standard we used to develop the plug-in was our own HiAnt software that has already proven its reliability and accuracy in numerous projects,” explained Jürgen Knaup, head of Customer Engineering Services in the High Performance Materials (HPM) business unit at LANXESS.

HiAnt – benchmark for the simulation of Tepex components

LANXESS in recent years has continuously improved modeling methods for its high-tech Durethan and Pocan thermoplastics and for Tepex high-performance composites, pooling this CAE competence under the HiAnt brand name. For example, a material model was developed specifically for Tepex that precisely describes the very complex anisotropic, mechanical behavior of this continuous fiber-reinforced thermoplastic. In addition, a simulation program was developed that enables users to accurately analyze the process of forming Tepex sheets into a final component shape, also referred to as “drape molding”. The orientation of the fibers after draping is an important input for subsequent mechanical component modeling. These CAE tools are used worldwide in HPM applications development to accurately design highly stressed components together with customers that meet all the requirements with weight and cost-optimized results. “Our HiAnt CAE methods have already

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successfully proven their reliability and precision in modeling innumerable prototype and series components, and today are the benchmark for simulating Tepex,” Knaup continued.

New solution for Tepex simulation on customer premises

Apart from this complete modeling service provided by LANXESS for development projects, many customers also wanted to be able to reliably design Tepex components themselves in their own CAE environment. In cooperation with e-Xstream, an additional solution therefore was developed that permits the mechanical material behavior of Tepex to be modeled in a Digimat simulation. This solution now is available as a plug-in for common CAE codes. It gives users the advantage of being able to access the same, efficient material description, independent of the solver and the type of analysis. “We supply our development partners with a Digimat material card that is optimally customized and validated for Tepex. They also benefit from all our HiAnt know-how in the areas of CAE as well as material and component testing, giving them the assurance of receiving comprehensive and competent support even with complex simulations,” Knaup remarked.

HiAnt – Tailored customer service

HPM has combined all services that offer development partners special added value under the brand name HiAnt. The goal of this service is to achieve an optimal system solution based on materials, component geometry and the manufacturing process.

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LANXESS is a leading specialty chemicals company with sales of EUR 8.3 billion in 2013 and roughly 17,300 employees in 31 countries. The company is currently represented at 52 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 sustainability indices Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI World and DJSI Europe) and FTSE4Good as well as CDP's Climate Disclosure Leadership Index (CDLI).

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