

LANXESS offers new flame-retardant thermoplastic composite materials with a polyamide 6 matrix

Tough and very fire-resistant

- **Top classification of V-0 in UL 94 flammability test**
- **High degree of strength and rigidity**
- **Focus on automotive, electrical/electronic and industrial applications**

Cologne, October 16, 2020 – Tepex continuous-fiber-reinforced thermoplastic composites from LANXESS are characterized by their high inherent flame-retardant properties. One of the reasons for this is their high fiber content. They therefore already pass many of the flammability tests required for typical applications without flame protection. However, for some applications – such as housings for control cabinets or components of high-voltage batteries for electric vehicles – a V-0 classification in the UL 94 flammability test from the US testing institute Underwriters Laboratories Inc. is often mandatory. For such cases, LANXESS has developed three new halogen-free, flame-retardant Tepex variants with a polyamide 6 matrix. “These structural materials are the material of choice when a V-0 classification is required and the components need to have a very high degree of strength, rigidity and energy absorption at the same time,” explains Sabrina Anders, Project Manager at the LANXESS subsidiary Bond-Laminates in Brilon, Germany, where Tepex is developed and produced.

Three product variants available

Tepex dynalite 102fr-RG600(x)/47% is reinforced with roving glass fibers. These can also be arranged multiaxially and thus precisely matched to the load transfer points and load paths in the component. The composite is universally applicable and is suitable for high-voltage components of electric vehicle batteries, such as separator plates, cover plates and control unit housings. In contrast, Tepex

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Page 1 of 4

dynalite 102fr-FG290 is targeted at applications in the electrical and electronics sector. With its reinforcement of fine glass fiber, it produces high-quality surfaces that are easy to paint. It is suitable, for example, for small housings that are required to comply with the DIN EN 45545-2 standard, "Railway applications – Fire protection on railway vehicles". Tepex dynalite 202fr is reinforced with carbon fibers and is intended for components subjected to extreme mechanical stress, such as high-strength electronic housings. According to Anders, "It is an alternative to composites made of flame-retardant polycarbonate if their strength and rigidity are not sufficient, for example."

Mechanical properties match those of standard products

All three structural materials are available in quantities for large-scale applications. They are also available in variants that are electromagnetically shielded by a carbon textile insert in the composite or a metallic surface coating. The UL 94 V-0 classification refers to specimen thicknesses of between 0.5 and 3.5 millimeters. "The flame-retardant additives are selected so that the mechanical properties of the composites are not negatively affected and are comparable to those of corresponding standard materials. For example, the flexural strength of Tepex dynalite 202fr is well over 600 megapascal," explains Simon Rösen, materials developer at Bond-Laminates. All flame-retardant packages comply with the EU RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances) Directive and the European REACH regulation (Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals, Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006)).

In addition to the three new products, LANXESS also offers further halogen-free flame-retardant Tepex variants with polycarbonate-based matrices. Most of these are certified as UL 94 V-0.

For more information on Tepex products and services, please visit www.tepex.com.

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Page 2 of 4

News Release

LANXESS is a leading specialty chemicals company with sales of EUR 6.8 billion in 2019. The company currently has about 14,300 employees in 33 countries. The core business of LANXESS is the development, manufacturing and marketing of chemical intermediates, additives, specialty chemicals and plastics. LANXESS is listed in the leading sustainability indices Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI World and Europe) and FTSE4Good.

Cologne, October 16, 2020
mfg/rei

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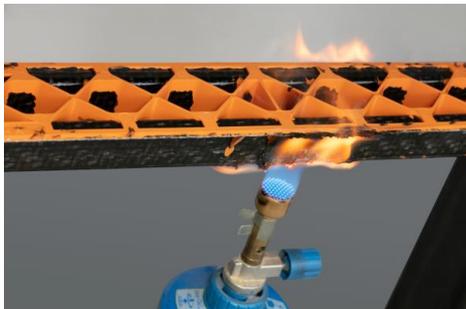
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Page 3 of 4

Images



LANXESS' own fire test on a model carrier: The black carrier profile is made of one of the new Tepex grades, the rib structure of an orange, likewise halogen-free flame-retardant polyamide 6 Durethan. The flames do not spread, but extinguish when the burner is removed – regardless of whether the carrier is flamed over the surface or at the edges.

Photos: LANXESS AG

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Page 4 of 4