PRESS RELEASE

18th November 2025

EuCIA announces launch of Carbon Fiber Europe

The European Composites Industry Association (EuCIA) is pleased to announce the launch of Carbon Fiber Europe, a new alliance dedicated to supporting the sustainable growth of Europe's carbon fiber industry. The founding members of the alliance are Hexcel Composites SASU, Mitsubishi Chemical Europe, Teijin Ltd, and Toray Industries.

Carbon Fiber Europe's mission is to promote the positive contributions and innovative power of European carbon fiber products to society and to foster their safe and sustainable use within Europe.

Carbon Fiber Europe will pursue these goals through activities based around four strategic pillars:

- Advocacy & Representation;
- Sustainability & Circularity;
- Innovation & Standards;
- Health & Safety.

At a recent meeting in Brussels, alliance members elected Raf Bussels, Senior Director EMEA R&D • Research & Development at Mitsubishi Chemical Group as the Chair of Carbon Fiber Europe, and Axel Leuchter, Head of EU Sustainability Group, Teijin Ltd, as Vice Chair.

Roberto Frassine, President of EuCIA: "We are delighted to welcome Carbon Fiber Europe as a new sectorial alliance of EuCIA. Carbon fiber is an integral part of Europe's composites industry and it is essential for realizing the EU Clean Industrial Deal's objectives for decarbonization, innovation and industrial resilience. We are committed to assisting Carbon Fiber Europe members in their efforts to reinforce carbon fiber's role in Europe's sustainable industrial development."

Raf Bussels, Chair, Carbon Fiber Europe: "Carbon fiber enables the manufacture of high-performance, lightweight, and durable composite materials that play a key role in markets such as transportation, energy, aerospace and defense. Collaborating with EuCIA, the voice of the European composites industry, we will champion the role of carbon fiber in enabling Europe's green and digital transitions and support actions that enhance Europe's leadership in carbon fiber materials and applications."

Carbon Fiber Europe will also advance environmentally and socially responsible production practices, promote circular economy models, and support the reduction of carbon footprint across the carbon fiber value chain, including end-of-life management. It will promote best practices and science-based safety guidelines to ensure the protection of workers, users, and the environment.

The alliance is currently defining its priority actions and Working Group structure. A Carbon Fiber Europe website will be launched soon.

Further information about carbon fiber and its applications is available in the position paper The strategic value of carbon fiber composites in a circular, low-emission Europe.

From left to right: EuCIA's Managing Director, Raphaël Pleynet, and President, Roberto Frassine, with Nicole Kambeck, Head of Sustainability, Mitsubishi Chemical Europe; Hinrich Hampe, Head of Governmental Affairs, Teijin Carbon Europe; Raf Bussels, Senior Director EMEA R&D • Research & Development, Mitsubishi Chemical Group; Claude Despierres, Vice President Sustainability and Business Development, Hexcel; Kristian Seidel, Managing Director, Teijin Automotive Technologies Wuppertal GmbH; Axel Leuchter, Head of EU Sustainability Group, Teijin Ltd; Ota Kenjiro, CEO EACC, and Eisuke Wadahara, President of EACC, Toray Industries. (Picture © Carbon Fiber Europe.)

About EuCIA

The European Composites Industry Association (EuCIA), headquartered in Brussels, represents European national composites associations and industry-specific sector groups and alliances at EU level. With the support of its members, EuCIA actively contributes to building an economically and environmentally sustainable European composites industry. Our initiatives aim to ensure the healthy growth and continued competitiveness of more than 10,000 companies and an estimated 150,000 employees involved in composites manufacturing across Europe.

The founding members of Carbon Fiber Europe

Hexcel Corporation, parent company of Hexcel Composites SASU, is a global leader in development and manufacturing of lightweight, high performance structural materials including carbon fibers, specialty reinforcements, prepregs and other fiber-reinforced matrix materials, honeycomb, resins, engineered core and composite structures. Hexcel products are used in variety of end applications in Commercial Aerospace (e.g., commercial aircraft), Defense & Space (e.g., military aircraft, space launch vehicles and satellites) and Industrial (e.g., automotive, recreational products). Hexcel products help its customers enhance performance of their products while reducing weight, which decreases fuel consumption and associated CO_2 emissions. www.hexcel.com

Mitsubishi Chemical Europe GmbH is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Mitsubishi Chemical Group. The company, with headquarters in Düsseldorf, offers and sells highly developed chemical-based products. The portfolio includes performance polymers, carbon fiber & composites, polyester films, aluminum and metal composite sheets as well as semiconductor solutions for a wide range of industries. The stem of all activities is to contribute to the KAITEKI corporate philosophy, which strives for the well-being of people and planet. www.mitsubishi-chemical.com

Teijin Ltd specializes with its Teijin Carbon Fiber Business Unit in the production and development of carbon fibers and carbon fiber based materials. Under the carbon fiber brand Tenax™ and Tenax Next™, Teijin Carbon offers high performance material solutions for industries such as aerospace, automotive, energy, electronics, civil engineering and sporting goods. With Tenax Next™, the company also pioneers sustainable innovation by using circular feedstock, significantly reducing its carbon footprint. www.teijin.com

Toray Industries is a leading technology and advanced materials innovator. We have contributed to social progress since our foundation in 1926 by creating new values. We help the world to overcome new challenges by supplying fibers and textiles, resins and films, carbon fiber composite materials, and other high value-added products. Our 306 subsidiaries and affiliates worldwide employ almost 48,000 people. Toray Carbon Fibers Europe S.A. (formerly Société des Fibres de Carbone S.A.) began the production and sales of carbon fibers in France in 1985. www.cf-composites.toray