

CHOMARAT'S COATINGS & FILMS BUSINESS ACQUIRES NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR

Chomarat, one of the world's leading producers of engineered textiles and composite reinforcements, is expanding its Coatings & Films business. The Company is investing in a new varnishing and finishing line for automotive coated materials, an addition that reinforces the industrial equipment already installed at the Chomarat France site.

"This €2.5 million investment is right in line with Chomarat's global development strategy. The new line will start producing as early as the beginning of 2017, enabling us to consolidate and increase our penetration of the automotive market. In point of fact, varnishing is a key coating step in parts production that optimizes surface quality," said Philippe Chomarat, the head of Chomarat Coatings & Films business.

MEETING FUTURE ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS



The deposition technology used on Chomarat's new varnishing line **focuses on optimizing the elimination of volatile organic compounds** in the different chemical formulations. *"By choosing to invest in this technology, we are anticipating the changes to REACH regulations,"* emphasized Philippe Chomarat. **The Company will be able to assist its customers and propose solutions over the medium term to eliminate the use of solvent-phase varnishes in the finishing of coated materials.**

OFFERING NEW DESIGN POSSIBILITIES

"Varnishing gives the part chemical resistance and mechanical characteristics like abrasion and flexural resistance. To be able to integrate tailored effects (matte, shiny or pearly, etc.) along with new qualitative features into the surface is a considerable advantage for designers," explained Francisco de Oliveira, the head of Automotive Marketing at Chomarat.

OSKIN™, A RANGE FOR THE AUTOMOTIVE MARKET

In this way, the Company is reinforcing its experience in interior automotive trim for dashboard, door panel and floor applications. Chomarat is also accelerating the development of thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO) solutions, which are the defining feature of its OSKIN™ range. *"This new equipment will enable us to design and tailor parts that meet the excellence criteria in the automotive sector,"* concluded Francisco de Oliveira.

Established in 1898, CHOMARAT is an international industrial textile group, involved in three businesses: Composites Reinforcements, Construction Reinforcements, Coatings & Films-Textiles. The privately held company operates in France, Tunisia, the United States and China to service its global customers.

CHOMARAT leads a strong innovation strategy, rising to challenges, developing materials for the future. Hence, the Group invests in new technologies and enters into collaborative research programs with universities and technical centers worldwide.

CHOMARAT offers strong technical know-how and mastery of complex technologies in fields ranging from automotive, aerospace, sports, energy, marine, construction, and also in markets requiring creativity and expertise, like luxury goods. www.chomarat.com