**CHEMISTRY THAT MATTERS™** 



# THERMOPLASTIC CONTINUOUS FIBER COMPOSITES: INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES FOR MASS PRODUCTION

#### SABIC SPECIALTIES

Joris Wismans – Lead Scientist 26-Nov-2019



1SABIC AT A GLANCE<br/>Introducing our parent company

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# SABIC AT A GLANCE



## SABIC AT-A-GLANCE





1976 Company established



33,000 Employees around the world



Countries of operations



3rd

Largest global chemical company\*



122<sup>nd</sup>

Largest public company in the world\*



US\$ bn

Estimated Brand Value\*\*

85

US\$ bn

Total assets 5.7

US\$ bn Net

income

45

50

US\$bn

Annual revenue



≈ 150

New products each year



11,738

Global patent filings



World-class plants worldwide



# WE ARE ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST DIVERSIFIED CHEMICALS BUSINESS



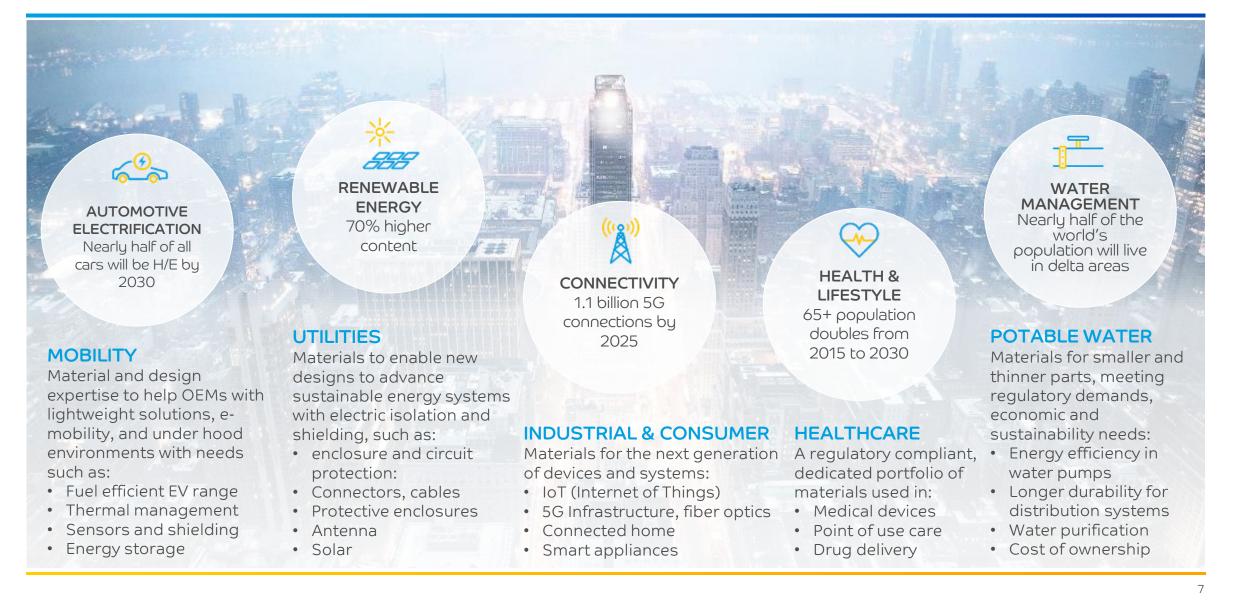


# THE HOME OF UNIQUE OFFERINGS





## OUR PORTFOLIO AND GLOBAL MEGATRENDS





# SABIC'S SPECIALTIES AROUND THE WORLD

**MIDDLE EAST** 

SABIC Headquarters Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

#### **AMERICAS**

- Cobourg, Ontario, Canada
- Pittsfield, MA, USA
- Selkirk, NY, USA
- •• Mt. Vernon, Indiana, USA
- Columbus IN, USA
- Austin, TX, USA
- San Luis Potosi, Mexico
- Campinas, SP, Brazil

MANUFACTURING SITES

#### TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION CENTERS

#### EUROPE

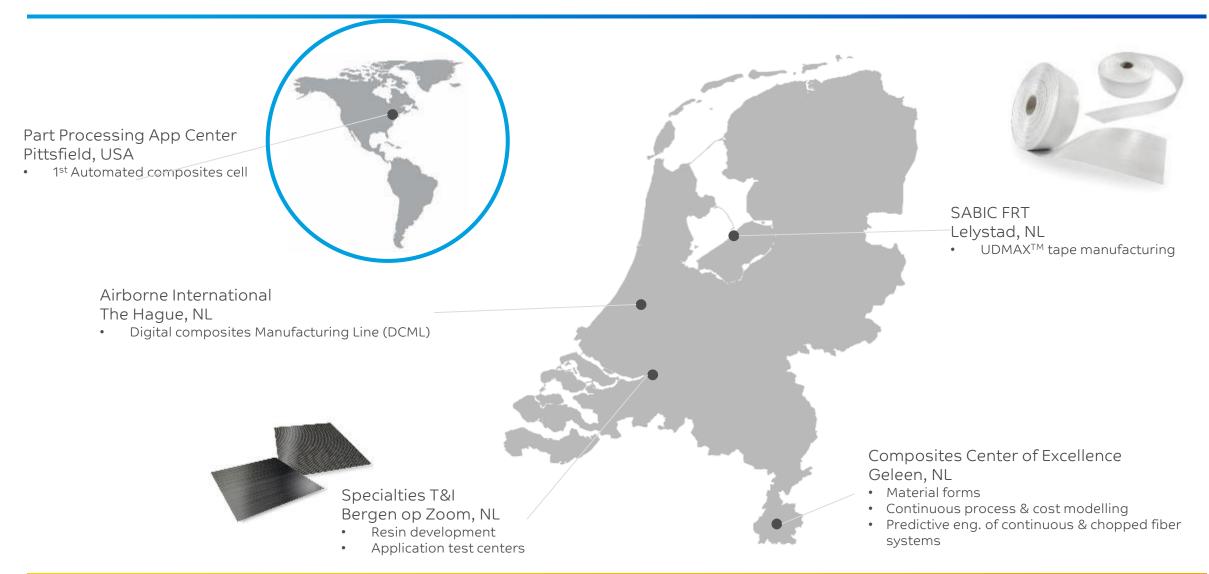
- Bergen op Zoom, Netherlands
- Raamsdonksveer, Netherlands
- Lelystad, Netherlands
- Geleen, Netherlands
- Thornaby, UK
- Pontirolo, Italy
- Cartagena, Spain

#### ASIA

- Baroda, India
- Bangalore, India
- Rayong, Thailand
- Benoi, Singapore
- Nansha, China
- 😑 🔵 Shanghai, China
- Sungnam, Korea
- Chungju, Korea
- Moka, Japan



## CENTER OF EXCELLENCE: NETHERLANDS



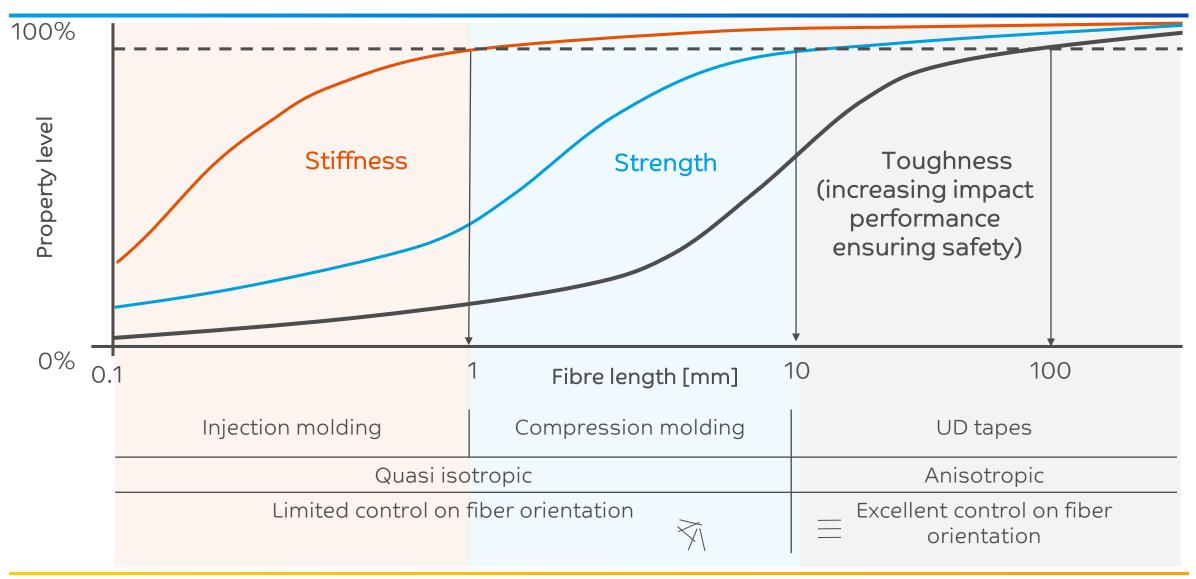
# ENABLING DIFFERENTIATION WITH CONTINUOUS FIBER COMPOSITES



# MARKET TRENDS AND PLATFORM VISION

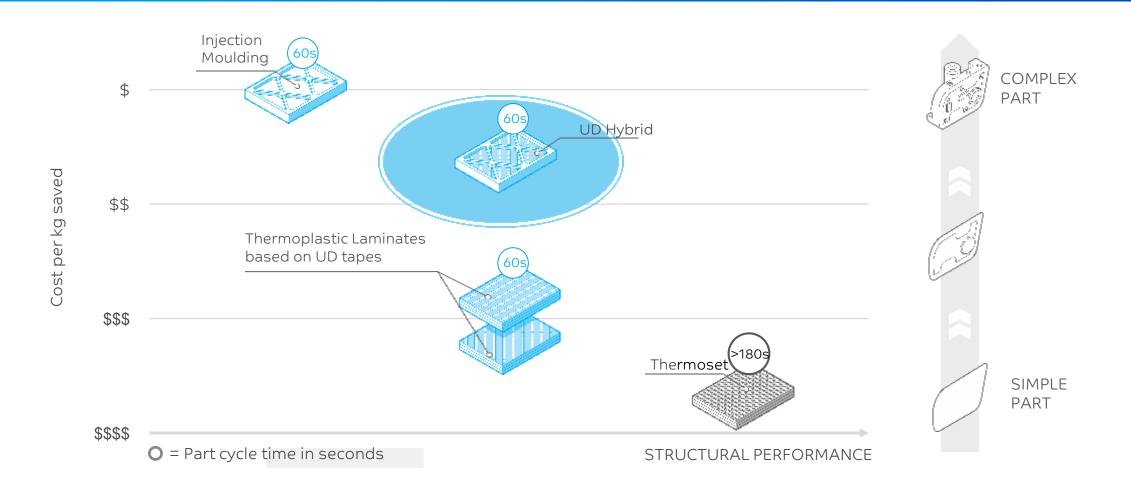


## ENABLING EFFECTIVE FIBRE UTILIZATION IN THERMOPLASTICS





## OPPORTUNITY FOR THERMOPLASTIC COMPOSITES



Cost effective, mass production capable, structurally lightweight and recyclable.

# TECHNOLOGY COMPETENCIES



### PRODUCTS (SABIC FRT)



Cross Section of UDMAX™ tape

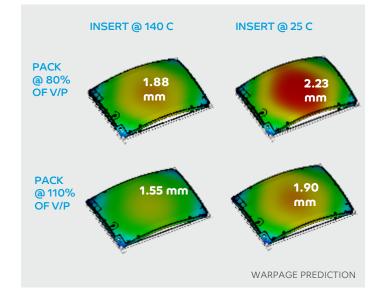
- HPFIT™ a proprietary high pressure fiber impregnation technology
- Resin formulation to match industry requirements, e.g. Glass Fiber Polypropylene FR tape for rail sector

PROCESSES (Airborne, Kuka, Siemens)



Proprietary consolidation process with a 15-second cycle time per laminate

#### **APPLICATIONS\***



- Simulation-based part and laminate design assistance
- Guidance on hybrid moulding
  processes
- Customized lay up design
- Injection Moulding experience to mitigate warpage

# UDMAX<sup>™</sup> PORTFOLIO



#### UDMAX<sup>™</sup> GPP 45-70 TAPE

A glass fiber-reinforced polypropylene tape delivering excellent stiffness, strength and impact resistance. These material forms can be used for an array of applications, from transportation to building & construction markets.

#### UDMAX™ GPE 46-70 TAPE\*

A glass-filled high density polyethylene tape designed to deliver one of the highest mechanical properties in the industry. It can be used to reinforce industrial pipes, boilers and storage tanks.

#### UDMAX<sup>™</sup> CPC TAPE\*

A carbon-filled polycarbonate tape designed for consumer electronics, sporting goods and industrial applications.

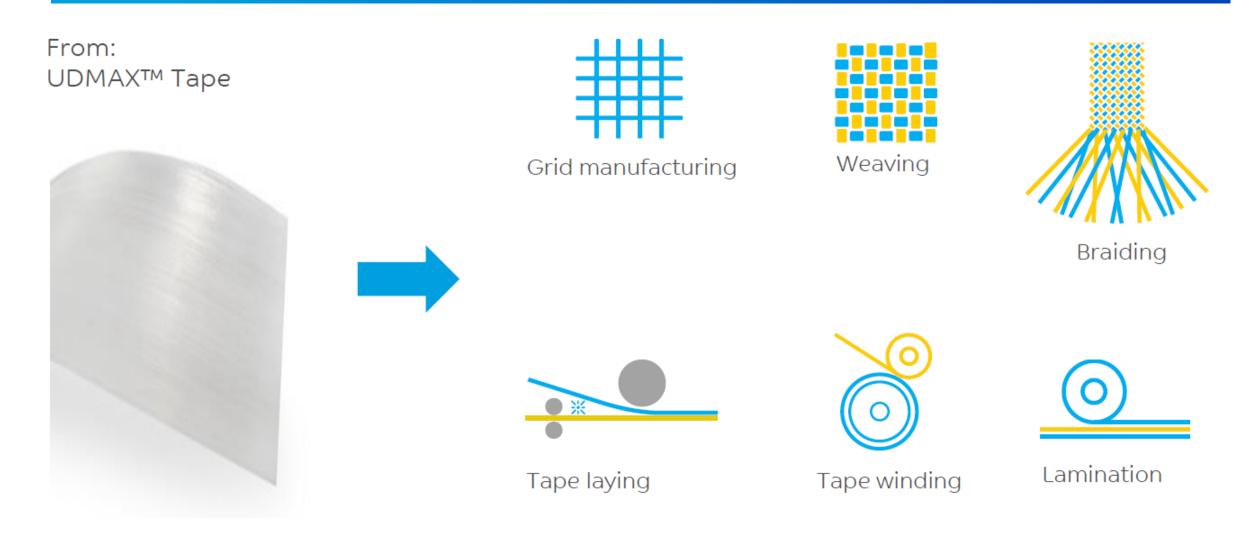
#### IN-HOUSE CUSTOMIZED TAPE SLITTING

SABIC's high end slitting equipment can slit UDMAX<sup>™</sup> tapes precisely and in custom widths –starting at 5mm wide to larger sizes, as the customer requires.





# PROCESSING TECHNOLOGIES



# AUTOMOTIVE AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

# COMMERCIAL VEHICLES



LIGHTWEIGHT

- Increased payload
- Optimization of fuel usage
- Lower CO2 footprint

#### STRENGTH

- High impact strength and stiffness
- Durable
- Corrosion resistance
- Quick and easy to repair
- Excellent toughness and fatigue resistance



# COMPOSITE BULKHEAD



A REVOLUTIONARY CHANGE IN VEHICLE PANEL PRODUCTION FEATURING SABIC'S UDMAX<sup>™</sup> THERMOPLASTIC COMPOSITE TAPE SABIC announced at JEC World 2019 a new, cutting-edge technology for producing lightweight, cost-effective and recyclable vehicle panels using its UDMAX<sup>™</sup> tape, a unidirectional, fiber-reinforced thermoplastic composite. This innovative technology, which is designed to replace traditional panels made of metal and thermoset materials for interior and exterior automotive applications, will soon be commercialized in the bulkhead of a light commercial vehicle (LCV) produced in large scale for the global automotive market. The bulkhead was developed through an international collaboration among SABIC FRT; RLE International, an engineering services provider headquartered in the United Kingdom; AMA Composites, an Italian toolmaker; and Setex Textil GmbH, a weaver based in Germany.

Vehicle panels made with UDMAX tape combine strength and impact resistance with light weight, which can result in mass reduction of interior panels of up to 35 percent in comparison to metal parts. In case of exterior panels, the composite material can help reduce mass up to 50%. They are produced using a highly efficient, one-shot process of lamination and low-pressure molding.

This mass saving can be achieved without sacrificing the impact performance of the part, which is essential to protect occupants against injuries caused by shifting cargo. According to RLE International, the bulkhead complies with ISO 27956, the standard for securing cargo in delivery LCVs. The build-up of the process and the tensile strength of the UDMAX are the main factors in optimizing the impact resistance of the bulkhead.





# THERMOPLASTIC COMPOSITES FOR MASS MANUFACTURING

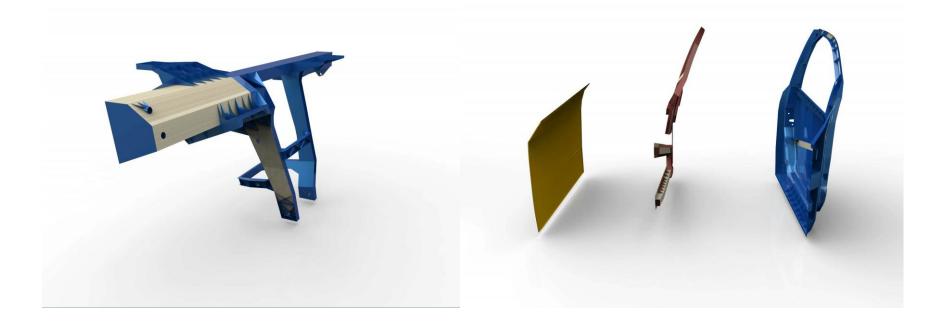
- Thermoplastic composites are now a reality for a number of interior parts in automotive
- Hybrid technology enables lightweight at an effective cost compared not only to thermoset composites but to metals as well.



# HYBRID DOOR STRUCTURE AND CROSS CAR BEAM

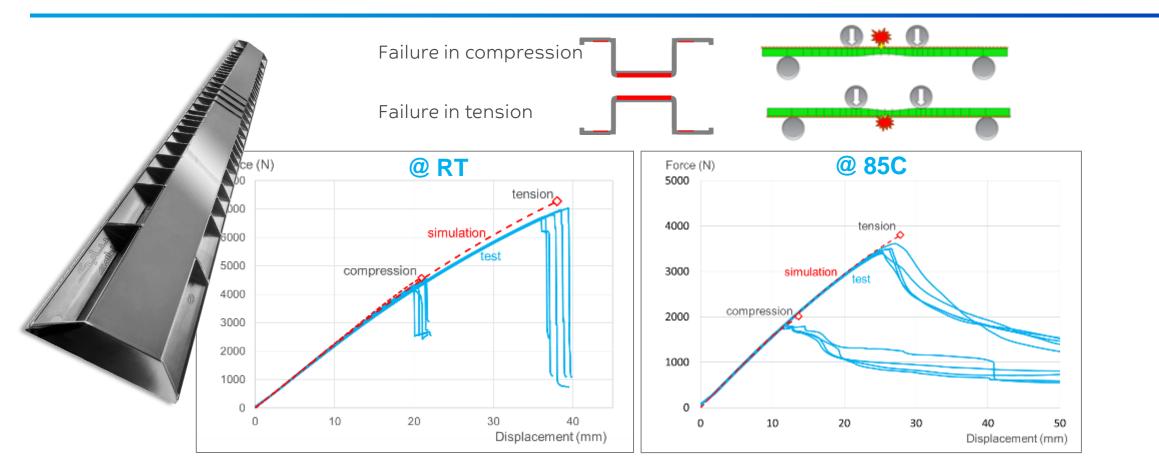


5kg/car saved vs steel\* Only one hybrid component >20kg/car saved vs steel\* Only two hybrid components





# VALIDATION BEAM: GLOBAL STIFFNESS & FAILURE



#### Providing good confidence for mechanical performance prediction (linear elastic and failure)



## PRODUCTION AT OF THE VALIDATION BEAM



# CONSUMER ELECTRONICS



# THERMOPLASTIC COMPOSITES FOR MASS MANUFACTURING

- Thermoplastic composites are increasingly being considered for large volume-scale applications (e.g. consumer electronics)
- Consistent high quality
- Short cycle times for mass production (<1min)</li>
- Low conversion cost
- Production line flexibility





# THE INDUSTRIALIZATION OF THERMOPLASTIC COMPOSITES IS IN SIGHT

- FLEXIBLE: can produce different designs, other functionalities can be added
- HIGH QUALITY: leads to lower scrap and higher manufacturing yields downstream
- FULLY DIGITAL: adaptive process control by data analytics and advanced models
- LOW SCRAP: net-shape lamination reduces waste and cost
- AUTOMATED: 4 laminates every 60 seconds; producing up to 1.5 million laminates per year
- POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS: cases and covers for consumer electronics, aircraft inserts, automotive components and sporting goods



DIGITAL COMPOSITES MANUFACTURING LINE - Developed in partnership with Airborne, powered by Siemens (digitalization) and KUKA (robotics) technologies

## SUMMARY



- SABIC Specialties "Pushing the boundaries of physical properties"
- Continuous fiber composites can successfully replace metals for structural applications but mass productivity and cost are in many sectors a challenge.
- Thermoplastic composites can be the answer but the industry needs to develop new materials, be able to design and process them cost effectively.
- SABIC offers part design support, a range of UD tape solutions under the UDMAX<sup>™</sup> brand and a wide portfolio of injection molding grades to create lightweight hybrid structure.
- In collaboration with AIRBORNE, and powered by SIEMENS and KUKA, SABIC developed the Digital Composites Manufacturing line. A fully automated system designed to mass produce laminates based on UD tapes for mass production.
- For more information contact JORIS WISMANS joris.wismans@sabic.com or GINO FRANCATO gino.francato@sabic.com

# THANK YOU