



Hexcel and FAIRMAT Announce Commercial Partnership to Recycle Carbon Prepreg Composites

- Commercial agreement for FAIRMAT to recycle carbon prepreg manufactured by Hexcel in France and in Europe
- Takeover lease of Hexcel's Bouguenais plant for the recycling of off-cuts by FAIRMAT
- Target to recycle the majority of production off-cuts from Hexcel's European facilities by end of 2022

NANTES, France, November 29, 2021 – Hexcel (NYSE: HXL) and FAIRMAT announced today a commercial agreement for the recycling of Hexcel carbon fiber prepreps as well as FAIRMAT's leasing of the Hexcel Bouguenais (Loire-Atlantique) facility.

Industrial scale up of FAIRMAT technology for recycling Hexcel carbon prepreps

FAIRMAT, a French deep tech company engaged in the virtuous recycling of carbon fiber composites, will recycle carbon prepreg off-cuts manufactured by Hexcel European plants at the Bouguenais plant. FAIRMAT will begin to set up the new site in early 2022 with production scheduled to start in March 2022. A target has been set to recycle most off-cuts from Hexcel's European facilities by the end of 2022.

Creation of the new high-performance eco-friendly material

Under the partnership signed today, FAIRMAT will lease a former Hexcel facility in Bouguenais (Loire-Atlantique) where it will recycle trimmings and off-cuts that have been generated during carbon fiber prepreg production at Hexcel European plants.

Hexcel off-cuts will be recycled for use in composite panels, specifically for transportation applications, event organization, furniture, and mass market electronics. These markets will now benefit from a low-weight material that is eco-friendly, low-cost, and highly resistant and significantly more efficient than a conventional material.

FAIRMAT has developed a virtuous recycling process capable of circularizing the manufacture of carbon fiber composite materials, thereby giving a second life to this high value-added material. Carbon fiber and resins are mainly cold treated, leading to reduced energy costs and avoiding traditional landfill or incineration solutions. FAIRMAT's clean recycling process is expected to save 41 kg of CO₂ emissions per kilogram of recycled carbon composite compared to virgin prepreps. FAIRMAT is aiming for a capacity of 5,000 tonnes of recycled material annually in this first production site.

"With FAIRMAT, Hexcel has found an industrial recycling solution for the carbon prepreg off-cuts generated at all our European facilities, as well as for our customers," comments **Thierry Merlot, President, Aerospace - Europe, MEA/AP and Industrial at Hexcel**. "This is a major innovation, at the core of the Nantes aerospace composite ecosystem, that fully supports our environmental sustainability policy. Hexcel is delighted with this key collaboration."

"We are proud of the trust Hexcel has placed in us by signing this strategic partnership," commented **FAIRMAT Founding Chairman Benjamin Saada**. "The commercial agreement covering the first tonnes to be recycled in Europe will enable us to complete the industrial scale-up of our virtuous recycling technology by the end of the year. I originally founded FAIRMAT with a totally circular vision in mind, so it was important for me to be able to reuse an existing industrial facility to launch our production. I'm delighted that FAIRMAT is rapidly advancing towards its goal of giving advanced materials a second life."



About FAIRMAT

Founded in 2020 by Benjamin Saada, Fairmat is a French deep tech aiming to revolutionize the recycling of carbon fiber-based composites. [Fairmat](#) creates a more sustainable future for composites and long-term industrialization through a virtuous recycling process thanks to its disruptive technology.

About Hexcel

[Hexcel Corporation](#) is a leading advanced composites company. It develops, manufactures and markets lightweight, high-performance structural materials including carbon fibers, specialty reinforcements, prepregs and other fiber-reinforced matrix materials, honeycomb, adhesives, engineered core and composite structures for use in commercial aerospace, space and defense and industrial applications.

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