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**Press release**

* **BBG Group: new composite press for Chinese railway supplier**
* **CSM process used for manufacturing interior parts for railway cars**

*Mindelheim, 21 March 2018.* Following a sales record in the previous year, the machinery manufacturer BBG now ventures into new markets with an innovative composite press. In March, BBG delivered the first model of the series to a company from the railway industry. The company plans to use it for the manufacturing of interior parts on the basis of the CSM process (composite spray molding).

The hydraulic press was specifically developed for the CSM technology, which allows for the production of lightweight and stable components that may be processed in a variety of ways. The press is an extension to a CSM system supplied in cooperation with BBG's partner Hennecke as early as in 2015. So far the customer has used the system to produce lightweight exterior components for truck cabs, also referred to as pop-up roofs.

**"Paper honeycomb" process for lightweight and stable components**

The customer is a supplier of China Railway, a state-owned Chinese railway company, and also delivers products to companies from the aviation and commercial vehicle industries. They plan to use the extended system for producing lightweight interior cladding on the basis of the "paper honeycomb" process. In the process, two glass-fiber mats sprayed on with PUR are pressed against an intermediate paper honeycomb layer and then cured in the presence of heat. The finished component is characterized by a low weight and a high level of stability and bending stiffness.

The composite press, which, as all other BBG systems, was entirely produced at the company's headquarters in the Unterallgäu region in the South of Germany, comes with two mold mounting plates, which are 2,000 mm in width and 1,400 mm in depth and can be swiveled at the same time. The swing angle of the upper and lower plates is 40 degrees each at a parallel stroke of 500 mm. The drying cycle takes ≤ 38 s. You may use molds with a total weight of up to 11,000 kg, the press and locking force amounts to 4,000 kN.

The hydraulic unit with a capacity of 2,500 l is mounted on a platform above the press in order to save space. Since the rear side of the press affords easy access, a robot can be used to feed material into the press mold from the rear. The finished component is subsequently removed from the front.

**BBG’s customers are active the world over**

BBG GmbH & Co. KG, a manufacturer of molds, machinery and plants, is a renowned specialist for the plastics-processing industry. In addition to end-to-end production facilities, we design, develop and produce molds for the processing of polyurethane (PUR), PVC, TPE and other elastomers as well as a wide range of fiber-reinforced materials. This includes production processes such as PUR-CSM (PUR Composite Spray Molding), LFI (Long Fiber Injection), RTM (Resin Transfer Molding), SMC (Sheet Molding Compound) or GMT (Glass Mat reinforced Thermoplastics), which are selected depending on the desired qualities of the finished products. Further important areas include solutions for light-weight design, the processing of composites and the manufacturing of components made of fiber-reinforced plastics for a large number of industries.

BBG, the family-owned business, which is located in Mindelheim/Allgäu and is run by Hans Brandner, the managing partner, supply their products to their customers all over the world, with the Asian market playing an important role in addition to the markets in Europe and North America. With a headcount of 170, BBG generated worldwide sales to the tune of 30 million euros in 2017.

**Photo:**



The composite press features a lower and an upper mold mounting plate and combines optimum handling with short function times (photo: BBG GmbH & Co. KG).

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