JEC 2016: SGL Group showcases innovative fiber materials and composites for different market segments

- JEC premiere of the “Carbon Core” body for the new BMW 7 series
- Fiber-reinforced composites for the automotive, aerospace, and wind energy industries
- Material innovations such as pre-impregnated fiber bundles and glass fiber-based thermoplastic composites

Wiesbaden/Paris, March 1, 2016. At this year’s JEC World in Paris from March 8-10, 2016, SGL Group will be presenting new material developments and innovative carbon fiber-based product solutions and their applications.

Composites are being used in combination with conventional materials such as steel and aluminum in increasingly more applications. Many developments focus on reducing the weight and increasing the functionality of components and optimizing material systems for use in large-scale production. This applies both to the automotive industry and to other segments such as aerospace and wind energy.

SGL Group demonstrates innovative material mix for large-scale automotive production

As a prime example for the innovative use of composites in large-scale production, SGL Group is showcasing the “Carbon Core” body of the new BMW 7 series for the first time at the JEC. Carbon fiber braids of SGL Group are being used as standard in combination with aluminum in the roof frame structure of this model series. The braids are produced in a fully automated process and then supplied directly to the BMW Group as preforms for the component production. SGL Group also supplies carbon fibers, carbon fiber-based fabrics and non-wovens, which are used according to the specific component requirements as standard in various parts of the body of the 7 series such as the C- and B-pillar pillar, rear panel, door sills, transmission tunnel, and roof rails.

SGL Group is involved in this project at various stages of the value chain. Carbon fibers are produced at Moses Lake in the US state of Washington. Subsequent processing of the fibers is carried out specially targeted within SGL Group’s production network.

Presentation of new material concepts in the innovation area of the JEC World Fair

In addition, SGL Group will demonstrate its current development activities in the newly created “AUTO Planet” innovation area of the JEC fair in Hall 6. Among the Company’s innovations are SIGRAPREG® TowPregs based on 50k continuous carbon fiber tow. SIGRAPREG® TowPregs made from carbon and glass fibers are particularly suitable for
automated production processes because of their width stability and excellent winding behavior and they impart very good mechanical properties to the component. They can also be combined with new rapid-curing prepreg resin systems, which are currently being developed to meet the requirements of future large-scale production in the automotive industry. These “snap cure” epoxy resin systems combine very rapid curing times (< 3 minutes at 150°C) with good storage stability. The pre-impregnated semi-finished products also have optimized tack for automated processing.

Another highlight of the innovative product solutions presented by SGL Group is the range of different material options in the area of fiber-reinforced thermoplastics. These include tapes, sheets & LFT, which permit very fast cycles, easy weldability, and good recyclability. The thermoplastic materials supplied by SGL Group have previously been reinforced solely with carbon fibers but, as of now, glass fiber-reinforced semi-finished products are also available.

Visit us at JEC World, Paris Nord Villepinte, Hall 6, Booth C25!

About SGL Group – The Carbon Company

SGL Group is one of the world’s leading manufacturers of carbon-based products and materials. It has a comprehensive portfolio ranging from carbon and graphite products to carbon fibers and composites. SGL Group’s core competencies are its expertise in high-temperature technology as well as its applications and engineering know-how gained over many years. These competencies enable the Company to make full use of its broad material base. SGL Group’s carbon-based materials combine several unique properties such as very good electrical and thermal conductivity, heat and corrosion resistance as well as high mechanical strength combined with low weight. Due to industrialization in the growth regions of Asia and Latin America and increased substitution of traditional with innovative materials, there is a growing demand for SGL Group’s high-performance materials and products. Products from SGL Group are used predominantly in the steel, aluminum, automotive and chemical industries as well as in the semiconductor, solar and LED sectors and in lithium-ion batteries. Carbon-based materials and products are also being used increasingly in the wind power, aerospace and defense industries.

With 42 production sites in Europe, North America and Asia as well as a service network covering more than 100 countries, SGL Group is a company with a global presence. In 2014, the Company’s workforce of around 6,300 employees generated sales of €1,336 million. The Company’s head office is located in Wiesbaden.

Further information on SGL Group can be found in SGL Group’s newsroom at www.sglgroup.com/press or at www.sglgroup.com.

Important note:
This press release may contain forward-looking statements based on the information currently available to us and on our current projections and assumptions. By nature, forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, as a consequence of which actual developments and results can deviate significantly from these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not to be understood as guarantees. Rather, future developments and results depend on a number of factors; they entail various risks and unanticipated circumstances and are based on assumptions which may prove to be inaccurate. These risks and uncertainties include, for example, unforeseeable changes in political, economic, legal, and business conditions, particularly relating to our main customer industries, such as electric steel production, to the competitive environment, to interest rate and exchange rate fluctuations, to technological developments, and to other risks and unanticipated
circumstances. Other risks that in our opinion may arise include price developments, unexpected developments connected with acquisitions and subsidiaries, and unforeseen risks associated with ongoing cost savings programs. SGL Group does not intend or assume any responsibility to revise or otherwise update these forward-looking statements.

Contact Corporate Communications:
Telephone +49 611 6029 100 / Fax +49 611 6029 101
E-mail: press@sglgroup.com / www.sglgroup.com