

2018

Innovation in Materials | Winner: Gurit

Improving user safety through the use of lower toxicity, UV detectable epoxy lamination systems

Overview

Gurit has developed a new epoxy laminating range called "Ampreg 30 LRT" for the manufacture of composite structures such as wind turbine blades and race yacht construction. With the advent of REACH and GHS, many established epoxy laminating systems available on the market have been, or are expected, to be reclassified to include higher toxicity labelling such as CMR's (Carcinogens, Mutagens and Reprotoxic). As a result it is becoming increasingly difficult for fabricators to eliminate or control the hazards of the composite materials they are using.

The material uses lower toxicity and CMR-free chemistry to improve the end-user experience, whilst maintaining the high material performance expected of epoxy composite laminating systems.

In addition, in the presence of safe-wavelength UV light, the resin emits a strong glow or fluorescence to enable easy detection on workers skin, clothing and working environment. The area can then be cleaned or removed before it can cause health issues.

Gurit ensured that when developing this innovation that it only used chemicals with fully tested toxicology data sets to provide long-term regulatory stability, ensuring the continued use of epoxy laminating systems in the composites industry to be maintained.



Gurit collecting the award from Richard Oldfield of the National Composites Centre (2nd from right)

"We are honoured and proud that Gurit Group's Ampreg™ 30 LRT has won the 2018 Composite UK Industry Award, Innovation in Materials category. It is great to see that the industry has voted for this new laminating system that has been formulated to prioritise user health and safety to advance the use of high performance composites."

Paul Spencer,
Product Development Manager,
Gurit (UK) Limited

The Composites UK Industry Awards are presented at the black-tie dinner which is aligned with the Composites Engineering Show in Birmingham.

Keep an eye out for our annual nomination process every May for your chance to apply.

www.compositesuk.co.uk/awardsdinner