

Cross-Cluster project started by the environment cluster Bavaria and the leading edge cluster MAI Carbon

The Environmental cluster Bavaria, together with the leading edge cluster MAI Carbon, which is an initiative from Carbon Composites e.V. (CCeV), have embarked on a Cross-Cluster Project on the topic of waste disposal and recycling of waste containing carbon fibers.

**UmweltCluster
Bayern**

**M-A-I
CARBON**

The project has the aim of identifying and further developing intelligent and sustainable solutions for the waste disposal and recycling of residues containing carbon fibers. A sustainable basis should be created which will set processes in motion over the course of this one-year project (Start 1st October 2016) that will further develop and anchor the recycling of CFRP materials in Bavaria. The total funding amounts to 50,000 Euro, which will be divided equally and refinanced.

Carbon fiber reinforced plastics (CFRP) are implemented everywhere when lightweight construction and stability play an important role. Based on their enormous potential in lightweight construction, they are a vital component in the most varied of branches, like for example the automotive, aircraft and aerospace industries. The growth in production levels has naturally led to an increase in the amount of waste produced containing carbon fibers. There do, of course, exist methods of waste disposal and recycling of CFRP, however no process has established itself on the market. Therefore the necessity is there to examine, further develop and, where appropriate, to identify new possibilities for waste disposal and recycling.

The focus of the project lies on the analysis of challenges and specific competences of the members and partners of the Environment cluster Bavaria and MAI Carbon. The project bundles the know-how of two strong networks and will therefore make a strong contribution towards strengthening Bavaria as a location as well as dealing with an important future challenge. The Bavarian ministry of Finance, Media, Energy and Technology is funding the project.

The Environment cluster Bavaria is the network of Bavarian environmental economics and science. The work of the network aims at the strengthening and expansion of en-



The MAI UCB project team is striving to identify and further develop intelligent and sustainable solutions for the waste disposal and recycling of residues containing carbon fibers: Anna-Lea Glocker (MAI Carbon), Denny Schüppel (MAI Carbon), Laura Jantz (Environment cluster Bavaria), Stephanie Schwarz (Environment cluster Bavaria), Daniela Ratzinger (Environment cluster Bavaria), Michelle Kraus (Environment cluster Bavaria) (f.l.t.r.)

vironmental technology in Bavaria through interlinking, informing and increasing cooperation. The Environment cluster Bavaria bundles the Bavarian competences from the sectors of water and sewage, waste and recycling, energy production from waste and biomass, air pollution control, resource efficiency and material flow management. Additionally the Environment cluster supports Bavarian companies in their efforts in the international environmental technology market.

MAI Carbon is one of five leading edge clusters that were recommended for funding from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research in the third round of the leading edge cluster competition in 2012. The cluster, based in the triangle covered by Munich, Augsburg, and Ingolstadt, has the target of leading CFRP technology to large series production status by 2020. This

should lead to Bavarian industry in particular being strengthened and to an expansion of the innovation lead already existing within many companies. In order to reach their goals, springboard innovations are required along the complete component life cycle i.e. starting from the fiber and matrix material to the production of components and product systems and on to coherent recycling concepts. To these ends MAI Carbon has initiated numerous R&D projects, which will have effects along the complete value added chain.

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