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INNOVATIVE APPLICATIONS FOR IPCO COMPOSITE PROCESSING SYSTEMS

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IPCO, a leading manufacturer of processing systems for composite materials, will use JEC World 2025 to showcase a number of innovative applications for its double belt press systems, precision scattering lines and continuous film casting process.

The company is a globally-active engineering group, supplying systems for the production of composite materials used in the automotive, aerospace, flooring, construction, non-woven, textile and recycling industries.

These include ThermoPress multi-stage double belt presses, available with PTFE and/or steel belts and configurable to handle everything from low pressure consolidation to high pressure, high temperature applications such as thermoset/thermoplastic materials. IPCO ScatterPro systems enable precision scattering of powders, granulates or fibers, and the company's thin film casting lines make use of Venturi drying technology to enable efficient production of films, tapes and membranes of exceptionally high quality.

Key topics will include:

Energy storage and EV components

IPCO systems are widely used in the development of materials needed to support the rapid transition to electric vehicles, such as separators or membranes used in Li-ion batteries, fuel cells and solid state batteries, and the advanced composite materials required to produce high-strength lightweight EV components.

In the case of battery technologies, IPCO's film casting system dramatically improves the casting process, enabling the production of film and tape products to exceptionally narrow tolerances. Applications for scattering systems and double belt presses include battery casings, bodywork and underbody parts, insulation and interior panels.

Sustainable leather alternative

Production of a new plant-based alternative to leather – with applications across the automobile, fashion/footwear and upholstery industries – has been made possible thanks to IPCO's double belt press technology. MIRUM® is a sustainable leather-like material produced by US manufacturer NFW using an IPCO ThermoPress CB, a double belt press combining the economy of PTFE belts with the high-pressure of steel belt modules,

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High volume waste recycling

The recent launch of IPCO's ScatterPro FX represents a significant step forward in the ability to handle high volume waste streams such as synthetic and natural fibers, production trim waste, glass fiber waste and even decommissioned wind turbine blades. This ultra-versatile system can handle dissimilar products (e.g. wood, foam, glass, plastic) without separating, and can create a web/batt up to 100 mm thick.

New Productivity Center

Investment is underway to develop an all-new Productivity Center showcasing IPCO's production solutions for composite materials at the company's German headquarters in Fellbach, near Stuttgart. The facility will enable customers to carry out process testing, product development and small scale batch production on the complete range of ThermoPress double belt presses and ScatterPro precision scattering lines, as well as associated upstream equipment. The center will also include a dedicated metrology laboratory.

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