

Kubota Research and DuPont-Toray Develop Breakthrough Fiber Reinforced Thermoplastic Composite: RUBA(R)-C

HOCKESSIN, DE – September 28 (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – Kubota Research Associates, Inc. with headquarters in Hockessin, Delaware and DuPont-Toray Co., Ltd. with headquarters in Tokyo, Japan announce a novel manufacturing method for a fiber reinforced thermoplastic composite without degrading the high tenacity fiber, which is a major revolution in the composite industry. The new prepreg composite and system for its manufacture, including the advanced material components, are exhibiting at the International Plastic Fair (IPF) in Makuhari, Japan, which runs September 24-28, 2005.

Kubota Research Associates has agreed to license P-Wave(TM) Pseudo Process Technology to DuPont-Toray Co., Ltd., and in a joint effort, have successfully developed a new product line using high-tenacity, long fiber materials such as Kevlar(R) to produce a reinforced thermoplastic composite prepreg named RUBA(R)-C. Kubota Research's P-Wave(TM) Pseudo Process Technology uses P-Wave 2200H-C near infrared radiation unit to enable the total manufacturing process for the new thermoplastic composite. The key advantages of this new and unique method are its extremely high tenacity, shatterproof property, ultra light weight and high productivity in manufacturing.

RUBA(R)-C Kevlar(R) reinforced polypropylene and Polyvinyl butyral (PVB) prepreg products and the P-Wave(TM) 2200H-C system will be in controlled sales in the 4th quarter of 2005. Kevlar(R) reinforced thermoplastic polyimide and other high performance plastic prepreg products are currently under development, and will be introduced in 2006.

DuPont-Toray and Kubota Research are expediting commercialization of the RUBA(R)-C thermoplastic composite for the manufacture of automotive parts and sports equipment, and are striving to develop other applications to take full advantage of the unique features of this new technology. Ultra light weight thermoplastic composites with high strength and shatter resistance are critical technology needs for automotive manufacturing, which is striving to dramatically reduce the total weight of automobiles, improve gas mileage and reduce emissions without sacrificing strength integrity and safety.

Company Information

DuPont-Toray Co., Ltd.

DuPont-Toray Co. is a polymer material manufacturer and sells Hytral(R), Kapton(R), and Kevlar(R) brand materials to Japanese markets. The company is jointly owned by Toray and DuPont.

Kubota Research Associates, Inc.

Founded in 2000, Kubota Research Associates Inc. is a technology company that has developed and patented the award winning P-Wave(TM) technology, a unique new process for joining plastics and manufacturing composites. Kubota Research Associates, Inc. manufactures and markets plastic joining systems, while providing custom-engineered plastic fabrication solutions to the worldwide market. Research supporting the development of P-Wave(TM) Pseudo Process Technology has been done under a grant from the U.S. National Science Foundation. Visit www.kubotaresearch.com.

For more information, contact, Jim Callough of Kubota Research Associates, Inc.
817-847-5006.

P-Wave(TM) is a trademark of Kubota Research Associates, Inc.

Kevlar(R) is a trademark of DuPont.

RUBA(R) is a trademark of DuPont-Toray, Takayasu Co., Ltd. and Ichimura Sangyo Co., Ltd.

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