



Human Chemistry, Human Solutions

## NEWS RELEASE

### Teijin Joins AZL Partner Network for Lightweight Production Technology

Tokyo, Japan, October 22, 2020 --- [The Teijin Group](#) announced today that it has joined the [AZL Partner Network for Lightweight Production Technology](#), a cross-industry network for joint business development and technology development organized by service and engineering provider [AZL Aachen GmbH](#) and involving nine institutes and some 80 companies in the field of lightweight production. On October 22, the network will be kicking off one of their many joint projects, an eight-month project to develop and manufacture [multi-material battery enclosures for electrical vehicles](#) (EV).

Amid the ongoing shift toward connected, autonomous, shared, and electric (CASE) automobiles, automotive companies are transforming their business models to realize more lightweight and multifunctional next-generation vehicles. The objectives of the cross-industry AZL Partner Network for Lightweight Production Technology align closely with Teijin's vision and goals of developing lightweight materials and components for these next generation vehicles. Through the participation in this project as well as two more projects, The Teijin Group will accelerate its automotive composite expertise.

Teijin acquired [Continental Structural Plastics Holdings Corporation](#) (CSP) in 2017 to become a Tier 1 supplier of multi-material automotive composites. CSP's French operation is installing a new sheet molding compound line. Teijin also acquired leading automotive-composite suppliers Inapal Plásticos SA of Portugal and Benet Automotive s.r.o of Czech Republic. The combined capabilities of Teijin's composites businesses have resulted in collaborative initiatives that leverage each company's unique strengths. For example, last year Teijin developed a [multi-material composite automotive door](#) that meets crash regulations while reducing weight compared to that of conventional steel doors. Also, Teijin established Teijin Automotive Center Europe GmbH (TACE) this past February as a base for developing technical functions using the group's automotive composites to strengthen and accelerate its conceptualization, designing, prototyping, evaluation, marketing and technical research of next-generation automotive components. In particular, TACE is helping to combine the Teijin Group's diverse capabilities in multi-material solutions utilizing its expertise, experiences and also new ideas in materials including carbon fibers and aramids for next-generation vehicles.

#### About AZL

AZL Aachen GmbH specializes in composite-based lightweight production and offers crossindustry services for business development and technology development. The engineering and service portfolio includes the identification of business opportunities

and market potential for lightweight construction technologies, the development of components, production processes and production systems including cost assessments and support for commercialization by identifying partners, suppliers and customers. Based in the heart of one of the world's leading high-tech ecosystems, RWTH Aachen University, the AZL works closely with technology experts and ultra-modern infrastructure for the entire value chain of thermoplastic, thermoset and hybrid material systems. With the AZL Partnership, the AZL offers a framework contract to connect decision-makers from academia and industry and to offer a platform for initiating sustainable partnerships in projects to exchange knowledge and efficiently drive innovation through shared effort.

[www.azl-lightweight-production.com](http://www.azl-lightweight-production.com) | [www.azl.rwth-aachen.de](http://www.azl.rwth-aachen.de)

### **About the Teijin Group**

Teijin (TSE: 3401) is a technology-driven global group offering advanced solutions in the fields of environmental value; safety, security and disaster mitigation; and demographic change and increased health consciousness. Originally established as Japan's first rayon manufacturer in 1918, Teijin has evolved into a unique enterprise encompassing three core business domains: high-performance materials including aramid, carbon fibers and composites, and also resin and plastic processing, films, polyester fibers and products converting; healthcare including pharmaceuticals and home healthcare equipment for bone/joint, respiratory and cardiovascular/metabolic diseases, nursing care and pre-symptomatic healthcare; and IT including B2B solutions for medical, corporate and public systems as well as packaged software and B2C online services for digital entertainment. Deeply committed to its stakeholders, as expressed in the brand statement "Human Chemistry, Human Solutions", Teijin aims to be a company that supports the society of the future. The group comprises more than 170 companies and employs some 20,000 people across 20 countries worldwide. Teijin posted consolidated sales of JPY 853.7 billion (USD 8.0 billion) and total assets of JPY 1,004.2 billion (USD 9.4 billion) in the fiscal year that ended on March 31, 2020.

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