

3 November 2015

Tata Steel at Blechexpo (3-6 November 2015): Hall 4, Stand 4209

Tata Steel adds new composite product Coretinium® to its strip product portfolio at Blechexpo 2015

Tata Steel today launches [Coretinium®](#), its latest state-of-the-art new product, at the Blechexpo sheet metal event in Stuttgart, Germany. This innovative new product is set to become the flooring and sidewall material of choice for European bus and trailer manufacturers looking to reduce vehicle weight and CO₂ emissions. It also offers a viable, lightweight and durable alternative for customers in the manufactured goods arena where it can be used in a wide range of applications.

Coretinium is a composite sheet product available in a thickness of 10 millimeter and combining two high performance materials: an optimised polypropylene honeycomb core which is both light and rigid and two steel skins manufactured from Tata Steel's [Colorcoat Prisma®](#), one of the steelmaker's market leading pre-finished steel products.

Colorcoat Prisma combines outstanding aesthetics with durability, being made up of a number of layers which perform different functions. The Galvalloy™ metallic coating and high build primer provide corrosion resistance and the topcoat utilises the latest polymer technology to provide abrasion and UV resistance. Coretinium, which is available in a choice of colours, is ready to use in most applications, providing an ideal surface for direct adhesive bonding or vinyl wrap decoration if required, thereby reducing manufacturing time for the customer.

Durable lightweighting material for commercial vehicles

“The combination of pre-finished steel for the skins with the polypropylene honeycomb's bi-directional rigidity makes for one of the most efficient products for commercial vehicle manufacturers looking for a lightweight alternative for the sidewalls and floors of their vehicles,” said Edwin Richards, Technical Sales Manager at Tata Steel.

“Coretinium has a range of benefits for customers. Its hollow core makes it a lightweight alternative – reducing transport costs for example – and its unique rigidity makes it stronger. Coretinium is also durable and shows no degradation from water ingress or moisture, maintaining its product life even in wet or humid conditions.”

For bus manufacturers in particular, who face stringent fire safety regulations, Coretinium brings the added benefit of being fire-resistant. This is essential for the engine bay in a bus, where the product acts as a steel sandwich for the floor panel and fire wall, complying with the industry standard R118 Annex 6.

Strength and flatness for modular building components

Coretinium is also a useful and easy-to-handle alternative to commonly used materials for the manufactured goods sector, where it can be used in anything from modular housing, exhibition stands and interior walls to event flooring, signage, boilers and heaters. Its lightweight, rigid, flat and versatile magnetic nature makes it an ideal material where strength and product flatness are required. The fire resistant Colorcoat Prisma pre-finished steel skin gives Coretinium a B-s1, d0 classification (as per EN 13823) that also benefits from outstanding aesthetics, allowing it to be used directly in most applications or digitally printed to produce bespoke designs.

“Coretinium is an innovative addition to our products and services portfolio, and a truly differentiated product that offers tangible benefits in the commercial transportation and manufactured goods sector,” said Henrik Adam, Tata Steel’s Chief Commercial Officer in Europe. “We want to give our customers the edge over competitors with the supply of leading, high-quality steel products and services.”

Coretinium is manufactured in the UK at Tata Steel’s Shotton, North Wales plant and can be supplied to customers as a flat composite sheet in lengths ranging from 2.5-10 metres. The line uses EconCore’s patented honeycomb core production technology and is the first in the world to combine this with steel skins in a continuous process. As steel is fully recyclable, Coretinium brings environmental benefits at the conclusion of the end product’s life span and the entire product can be recycled as steel, without the need to separate the core from its skins.

The Coretinium brand name was inspired by its characteristics and derives from its honeycomb core, its longer length and its unique rigidity.

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About Tata Steel's European operations

Tata Steel is Europe's second largest steel producer, with steelmaking in the UK and Netherlands, and manufacturing plants across Europe. The company supplies high-quality steel products to the most demanding markets, including construction, automotive, packaging, rail, lifting & excavating, energy and aerospace. Tata Steel works with customers to develop new steel products that give them a competitive edge. The combined Tata Steel group is one of the world's largest steel producers, with a steel capacity of nearly 30 million tonnes and 80,000 employees across five continents.

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