



Partnership for VAP® in the wind power field

Trans-Textil and SAERTEX on joint path to success

The production of rotor blades for wind turbines is one of the most important application fields for VAP® membrane-assisted low pressure infusion. On this largest market for VAP® applications, SAERTEX GmbH & Co. KG and Trans-Textil GmbH have an exclusive partnership within the EADS VAP® license management system. The long-standing global experience and expertise of the SAERTEX group and the membrane system production processes developed and used by Trans-Textil are an ideal combination for successful use of the patented VAP® process in the wind power field.

Modern wind turbines with a rotor diameter of over 50 metres and blade tips exceeding velocities in the ultrasonic range have to withstand enormous forces. On the growing turbine blade market there is thus a demand for a series-production-capable process that ensures a high degree of standardisation plus accommodation of constant changes and improvements in the components. By delivering consistent, high-quality results, VAP® has convinced a large number of international blade manufacturers of its value as a production method. Within the vacuum-based approach, approved and tested VAP® membrane systems ensure predictable component quality by minimising trapped air and gas.

As the world market leader in the development and production of stitchbonded fibreglass and carbon fibre fabrics, SAERTEX GmbH & Co. KG added licensed VAP® membrane systems to its portfolio in 2002 and is a member of the worldwide VAP® network.

The VAP® process, VAP® membrane systems and related components are protected by extensive international patent rights that are rigorously asserted to guarantee VAP® users and their customers a competitive edge. The licence management system set up by EADS Deutschland GmbH as part of its Technology Licensing Initiative opens use of the patented VAP® membrane-assisted, low pressure infusion process to all fields – including wind turbine blade fabrication.