

Krallmann shows part and process integration capabilities

By David Vink

Plastics News Correspondent

Injection molder and mold maker Krallmann Holding + Verwaltungs GmbH in Hiddenhausen, Germany, is presenting two themes at Fakuma illustrating the company's capabilities as a developer of system solutions for pre-serial production and turnkey packages.

These are the IMPIM integrated metal-plastics injection molding process and the PCIM particle foam composite injection molding process in expanded polypropylene.

At Fakuma, the company has a live IMPIM demonstration with a Krallmann three-station rotary index plate mold mounted on a KraussMaffei press.



Brexeler

The first station molds a polycarbonate box, and the second inserts an LED light and low melting point solder on the inside of the box via a Krallmann metal injection unit

mounted on the mold. The process forms conductive circuit tracks inside the box. An E-Multi auxiliary injection molding unit from Milacron's Moldmasters business unit completes the process, injecting translucent red PC onto the box's outer surface.

Inserting a ballpoint pen into a hole in the box closes the circuit, illuminating Krallmann's "K" logo on the surface.

Krallmann Managing Director Ingo Brexeler said IMPIM technology has good prospects for highly integrated automotive rear LED light cluster units.

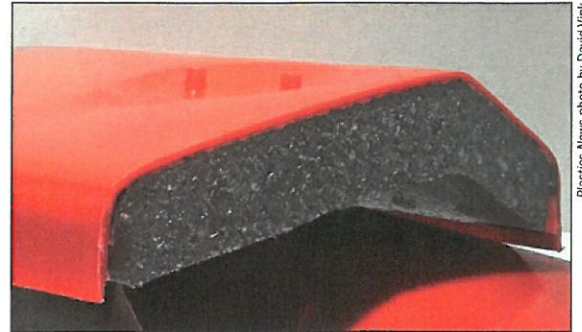
The latest PCIM process development is overmolding of an entire particle foam door panel with an aesthetic high-gloss surface. It follows developments with injection molding machinery producer Arburg (Hall A3, Booth 3100) and particle foam molder Ruch Novaplast GmbH + Co. KG (Hall B2, Booth 2203).

PCIM is not running at Fakuma; Brexeler said the company's booth is too small to run both processes. But Krallmann and foam machinery producer Kurtz Ersa, part of Kurtz Holding GmbH & Co., are putting finishing touches on a live demonstration to take place at a Kurtz Ersa open house in Kreuzwertheim, Germany, on Nov. 16-17.

Such demonstration parts have been produced in the SamPa project for integrated large-scale serial production of PCIM hybrid lightweight parts. SamPa receives financial support from the BMBF Federal German ed-

**Krallmann Holding +
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Hall A7, Booth 7508

ucation and research ministry and involves Krallmann, injection molding machinery producer Arburg, the ILK lightweight plastics construction institute at Dresden technical university, the LWF material and joining technologies institute at Paderborn university, Ruch Novaplast and mold maker T. Michel Formenbau GmbH & Co. KG in Lautert, Germany.

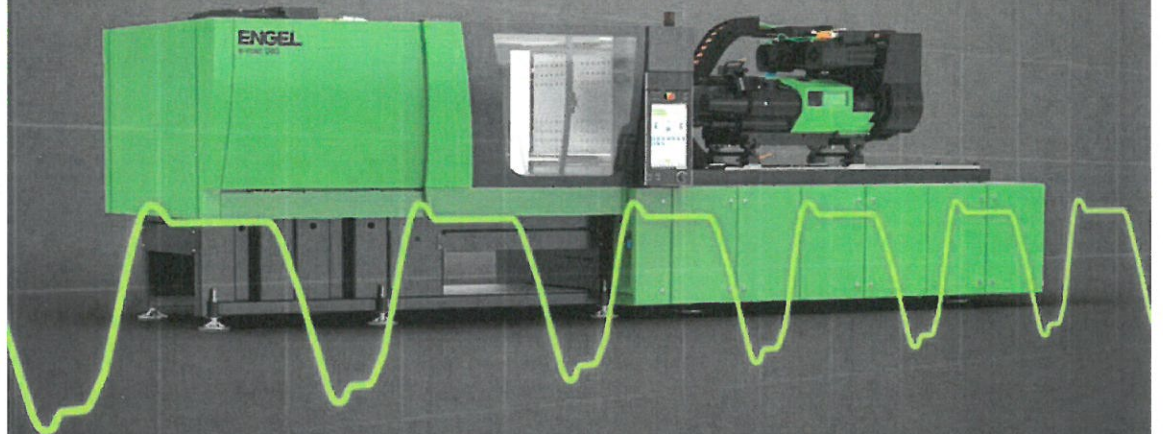


The aesthetic surface of the PCIM part.

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