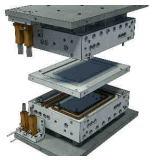
Press Release *Le Bourget du Lac, March 2010*

ROCTOOL PRESENTS 3iTECH®, FASTEST CYCLE TIME FOR CARBON FIBRE MOULDING EVER ACHIEVED

3iTech® RAISES THE BARRIERS FOR CARBON FIBRE MOULDING



The 3iTech® technology is a process of heating the mould by electromagnetic induction. *« The basic principle of 3iTech®, is that the inductors are integrated inside the mold at manufacturing time in order to match the shape of the part. »* explains Alexandre Guichard, RocTool's CEO
The induction is generated from inside the mould and no electrical current circulates on the surface, this allows the conductive molding of materials such as carbon fibre.
This technology allows a homogenous heating at the tool surface, all whilst improving the heating time and energy needed». 3iTech® completes the RocTool range who already have Cage System® for plastic injection.
3iTech®, is a 3D network of « super heating cartridges» which are placed differently depending on the process required (RTM, thermo compression, plastic injection, vacuum formed and hollow part production), the temperatures to achieve (differs depending on the material to be used), heating time, holding time and the shape and complexity of the part to be produced.
To be able to heat a mould up to 400°C in several minutes or to 120°C in several seconds, makes the mass production of carbon composite parts in a cycle time which has never previously been reached. Further to that by removing the constraints of inertia state, RocTool managed to **create "smarter" heating tools**, to separate the heating of a fixed part to a moving one, or to locally heat the tool to a chosen temperature level……

MORE FLEXIBILITY FOR AEROSPACE EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS

Reducing the cycle time is particularly interesting for the aerospace industry: **equipment suppliers have several thousand references, and as many moulds as necessary, however, the productivity is limited due to the tool heating time.**
"*In Aerospace, the technology is particularly suited to structural parts, clips, seat components, hollow parts or port holes. We currently carry out PPS or Peek parts, heated up to 400°C with a complete cycle time of less than 5 minutes"* indicates Alexandre Guichard.

VERY SHORT CYCLE TIME, NEVER SEEN BEFORE IN THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

The structural parts of vehicles, absorbers or carbon fibre panels are generally sort after by car manufacturers**: with electric vehicles arriving on the market, this forces manufacturers to resolve the weight issues of these vehicles,** according to Alexandre Guichard, ***"if carbon fibre becomes inevitable, the 3iTech® technology is essential with its very short cycle time" 3iTech® allows the equipment suppliers and the manufacturers easier and cheaper access to carbon fibre which directly impacts the production costs"*** In the automotive industry, the technology is well adapted to structural parts and decorative, interior equipment, however the exceptional surface quality which only comes from 3iTech® allows us to also offer exterior panels and/or parts (roof, hood).

IMPECCABLE SURFACE QUALITY FOR HIGH TECH PRODUCTS

3iTech® allows more flexibility using their moulds, excellent surface quality and a very short cycle time compared to what is currently in use for the "3C" markets**.** These advantages will allow product designers to integrate, low cost, high-tech composites. ***"Today the Smartphone carbon shell is an item that High Tech fans dream about and costs about 80€ in stores. Using 3iTech® the price of production dramatically drops to less than 5€"*** adds Alexandre Guichard. RocTool's technology offers to the market leaders in this field, an irreproachable surface quality with perfect appearance and zero faults, which is exactly what they require to offer to the general public.

COMPLEX SHAPES AND PARTS AND FOR SPORTS & LEISURE

For **tube and hollow part production**, 3iTech® is particularly adapted to bike wheels, baseball bats, tennis rackets, hockey sticks or golf clubs for example. The technology equally answers the constraints of **shell part production**, notably back pack shells, soles of shoes, skis etc*….."to extraordinarily lower the cost of production and offers well known brands new perspectives: maintaining their production in their factories and protecting their innovations"* finishes Alexandre Guichard

RocTool will display parts for each industry at their stand M26 at JEC COMPOSITES SHOW 2010 (13-15 April 2010)

For more information: www.roctool.com

More about RocTool

*Since its creation in 2000, RocTool develops innovative processes for rapid material molding. Winner on two occasions of the JEC Composites Awards, the company has sold twenty patented licenses of its induction heating technology, the **Cage System®,** predominantly for Composite applications of medium to large series. The **Cage System®** began production in 2009 in Plastic Injection. **3iTech®** was launched in October 2009, destined to the transformation of composites and carbon fibre. **RocTool** was introduced onto the Stock Market at the beginning of 2008, on "Nyse Euronext Marché Libre" in Paris. RocTool's headquarters and R&D centre are situated at Savoie Technolac in Le Bourget du Lac (France) and three sales offices, one in Atlanta (USA) one in Tokyo (JAPAN) and the other in Taiwan. RocTool also has a technical centre in India, trials and demonstration platforms in France, Germany, Japan and USA.*

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