



Basotect® UL streamlines aircraft insulation

Case Study

New BASF foam variant streamlines aircraft insulation

BASF is now offering a new variant of Basotect®, its sound-absorbing and heat-insulating melamine resin foam. The material is called Basotect® UL and it is particularly suitable for the insulation of airplane cabins. Weighing only 6 g / l, it is 30 % lighter than conventional Basotect®, meaning that this new BASF foam is able to meet the ever-rising requirements made in aircraft construction in terms of sound protection and weight reduction. This new, yellow-colored Basotect® UL also complies with the stringent fire protection standards stipulated by aviation authorities.

Easy to install

Thanks to its filigree, three-dimensional network structure consisting of easily thermoformable filaments, panels made of Basotect® UL are simpler to install than the glass fiber pads with which manufacturers normally insulate their aircraft. In a complex procedure, glass fibers have to be spun before they can be secured in the form of pads between the ribs of the airplane fuselage. Moreover, the vibrations that typically occur during flight cause the fibers to slip down over the course of time, which can impair the insulating effect. Basotect® UL, in contrast, is more flexible and softer than glass fibers – so it is simple and quick to install while being permanently secured against slippage.

Basotect® UL has a number of advantages over foams that are already in use for interior insulation in aircraft. It is not only much more flexible than materials such as polyimide foam, but the BASF foam also retains its flexibility, even at extremely low temperatures at which it exhibits a better thermal insulating effect.

