

Modular Sandwich Technology for bus roofs

In cooperation with independent vehicle research association "fka", Alcan Composite Structures, Bostik the Adhesive Company, Dow and Pecocar presented Modular Sandwich Technology for bus roofs at the exhibition Busworld 2009. These 4 partners joined forces and invested in a scientific research in which fka evaluated sandwich roof technology for buses compared to conventional metal roof structures.

fka

The "Forschungsgesellschaft Kraftfahrwesen mbH Aachen" (fka) is a leading engineering provider for the automotive industry. In cooperation with the Institute of Automotive Engineering at RWTH Aachen University (ika), fka offers services relating to the technical design, simulation, prototyping and testing of vehicles or individual components and systems. Key areas of research are innovations aimed at energy efficiency, safety and driving pleasure.

Research approach

The fka association carried out the study in various steps. The existing technology of bus roof construction was investigated by providing functional requirements and performance specifications. Furthermore the technical and commercial requirements were taken into account by a comparative evaluation. To obtain specific background information, sandwich supplying companies who are involved in different European bus development projects were consulted and operating bus and coach companies were interviewed.

Modular Sandwich technology

The implementation of modular sandwich technology in bus roofs offers bus and coach manufacturers considerable cost, weight saving, technical and logistics advantages.



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