

03 Owens Corning Introduces Silentex® Preforms

New Pre-formed muffler inserts have been added to the Owens Corning line of Silentex® engineered solutions.

The preforms are made in Amarillo, Texas, USA, one of the facilities making Silentex® roving with the company's patented Advantex® glass. The new acoustic and thermal solution was introduced at the International Noise and Vibration Conference hosted by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), May 16-19 in Grand Rapids, Mich., USA.

"Preforms are a superior solution for mufflers and silencers," said Peter Adriaansen, general manager, vehicle components. "Compared to bagged products, molded inserts are easier to use, provide better noise reduction and are better for the environment because there is no bag to burn off."

With the addition of preforms, Owens Corning is the only global company providing four options for mufflers filled with fiberglass – standard and texturized roving, muffler filling technology and equipment, filled bags, and now preforms. The options are available where and when customers need them worldwide.

All of the major car makers today use Silentex® products for at least some of their vehicles. The ability of Advantex® glass fibers to withstand the heat and corrosive chemicals in today's modern exhaust systems is a foundation for such widespread use. Exhaust temperatures continue to rise as auto makers produce smaller, more fuel-efficient and powerful engines.



“Auto makers are using Silentex® noise control systems but they have been asking for solutions that make it easier for them to produce mufflers and silencers,” continued Adriaansen.

"Our pre-formed muffler inserts respond to that need."

The Silentex® system traces its roots to the mid-1980s when inventors at Owens Corning developed a process to make better automotive mufflers by replacing basalt wool with glass fiber. During the following 25 years, the basic technology was extended with innovations that improved the fiber and filling equipment, and made pre-filled bags.

The use of Silentex® engineered solutions is not limited to the automotive market. The products can be used wherever extreme acoustic and thermal insulation are required. Current applications include power sport vehicles (motorcycles, snowmobile and ATVs), industrial silencers and other non-automotive applications.

For more about Silentex® solutions, visit <http://www.ocvreinforcements.com/solutions/Silentex.asp>