

Asahi Kasei Europe GmbH
September 19, 2018

One-stop solution provider for the automotive industry - Asahi Kasei presents its concept car AKXY™ in Europe

Düsseldorf, September 19, 2018 – Safe, clean, light, comfortable, connected and intelligent as well as with sustainable materials on board: Asahi Kasei shows all this in its electric concept car AKXY™. Following its slogan "Creating for tomorrow", the leading Japanese technology group offers a unique portfolio for the automotive industry and establishes itself as a partner for the automotive industry.

The automotive industry facing a turning point. Maximum comfort, lightweight materials and high efficiency with consistent safety: New technologies such as autonomous driving, a changing consumer behaviour and stricter environmental regulations are presenting automotive manufacturers and suppliers with new challenges. In response to these new trends, Asahi Kasei, in collaboration with GLM. Co., Ltd., Kyoto/Japan (a spin-off of Kyoto University, which has been designing electric cars since 2010), has developed the electric car AKXY™ and will present it to the European public for the first time at a press conference and customer event in Düsseldorf in September 2018.

This electric vehicle incorporates the expertise of many of Asahi Kasei's business units; all 36 components and systems used are made of high-performance materials and give both the car body and the interior a future-proof design, as impressively confirmed by the nomination for the renowned "German Design Award" in 2019.

Asahi Kasei offers the automotive industry interdisciplinary materials and solutions in the application areas "Lightweight", "Safety / Comfort", "Electrification", "Intelligent Car" and "Efficiency". For example, the lithium-ion battery in AKXY™ is placed in a housing made of a dimensionally stable and heat-resistant technical plastic, the modified polyphenylene ether (mPPE) XYRON™.

At the heart of the battery is the separator Hipore™, a high-performance microporous film membrane based on high-density polyolefin (PE-HD), which contributes to battery safety. With its high oil resistance and excellent mechanical properties, LEONA™ PA 66 polyamide is suitable as a metal replacement for engine components for vehicles with conventional combustion engines.

The lightweight mPPE particle foam SunForce™, with its unique UL 94 V-0 flammability certified by the Underwriters Laboratories safety organization, its insulating properties and its excellent formability, is an ideal material for various components, such as structural components for lithium-ion battery housings. AKXY™s tires consist of solution-polymerized styrene-butadiene rubber (S-SBR). This material enables fuel-efficient tires while maintaining good traction and braking properties. Duranate™, an additive for environmentally friendly coatings, offers high weatherability combined with very good optics for the vehicle body.

The various electronic systems used in AKXY™ are based on sensors. These are, for example, sensors for recording vital functions, hands-free systems or In-Car Communication (ICC) systems. Together with its Swedish group company Senseair, Asahi Kasei develops sensor solutions for measuring the CO² content in the vehicle cabin, which can reduce the number of traffic accidents caused by driver fatigue or lack of concentration.

With its concept car, the diversified technology group shows that it can supply various products and technologies for almost all automotive applications. Asahi Kasei will be exhibiting AKXY™ from 13 to 16 November 2018 at the world's leading electronics trade fair electronica in Munich (Hall B4, Stand 516).

About the Asahi Kasei Corporation

The Asahi Kasei Corporation is a globally active technology group that works in the three business areas of Material, Homes and Health Care. Material includes fibres & textiles, petrochemicals, high-performance polymers, high-performance plastics, consumer products, battery separators and electronics. Homes offers construction material to finished houses on the Japanese market. The area Health Care includes pharmaceuticals, medical technology, as well as devices and systems for acute and intensive medicine. With about 34,000 employees across the world, the Asahi Kasei Group supports customers in more than 100 countries.

“Creating for Tomorrow”. With this slogan, the Asahi Kasei Group refers to the common mission of all its companies, to help people across the world towards a better life and living with sustainable products and technologies. You can find further information at

www.asahi-kasei.co.jp/asahi/en/

<https://www.asahi-kasei.eu/>