



## PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release



### RadiciGroup at NPE2012: winning solutions for the automotive sector.

Innovation, reduced environmental footprint, high performance and quality are the trademarks of the product portfolio RadiciGroup Plastics has specifically developed for the automotive industry. These products are being exhibited at NPE2012, the international plastics showcase in Orlando, Florida, USA, from April 1 to 15, 2012.

Among the leading products:



- **RADILON® A HHR (HIGH HEAT RESISTANT)**: PA66 engineering plastics with exceptional heat resistance to aging in air at temperatures of up to 210°C.
- **RADILON® D**: PA610 engineering plastics, 60% made of biological polymers, for injection molding and extrusion.
- **RADILON® A RV500 RW 339 and RADILON® S URV**: PA6 and PA66 engineering plastics for use as metal and thermosetting material replacements.
- **RADILON® A RV300 HRG 3900 NER and RADILON® A GF300 RKC NER**: glycol-resistant PA66 engineering plastics.

Other products at the trade show:



- **RADIFLAM® S, RADIFLAM® A and RADIFLAM® B**: flame-retardant PA6, PA66 and PBT products for injection molding and extrusion.
- **HERAFLEX® E**: thermoplastic elastomers (TPC-ET) for injection molding.

RadiciGroup Plastics, represented by US-based **Radici Plastics USA Inc.**, is participating at NPE2012, where it is introducing some of its latest solutions for the automotive industry. The high-performance characteristics of these new products make them ideal for the manufacture of parts to be installed under the hood, where high-temperature stress (temperatures often exceeding 100°C) and the presence of aggressive liquids, such as gasoline and oil, create a particularly difficult engineering challenge. Also suitable for use as metal and thermosetting material replacements, the new products developed by RadiciGroup Plastics for the automotive sector guarantee high performance as well as reduced environmental impact.

"NPE is an important trade show for us," said **Danilo Micheletti**, RadiciGroup Chief Operating Officer for North America, South America and China. "It is an event of international significance and the major plastics industry exhibition in the Western hemisphere. The North American market, where RadiciGroup Plastics USA has had production and sales units since 1998, registers annual plastics sales of about USD 400 billion and is a commercial meeting ground for the South American, European and Asian segments. During 2011 our Group enlarged and renewed its product range for the United States, focusing particularly on products targeted at the automotive industry, which is our number one market. Our sales last year confirmed the 25% growth forecast. For the coming three years, growth is estimated to remain above the market average. Against the background of a general slowdown in the global economy, our performance in the US market can be considered more than satisfactory. Unlike the European automotive market, where there is a negative growth trend, the American market is getting stronger, which – with a note of caution – is a reason for hope."

In February, total sales in the US rose by 16%, with the giant manufacturer Chrysler recording the highest growth rate, a jump of 40%. Other car manufacturers, such as Renault and Nissan, are also optimistic for 2012 and foresee strong sales in the American market following the launch of new car models. After a bad 2011, Toyota and Honda, the number one and number two Japanese carmakers in the US market, expect a prompt recovery with a more than one point increase in market share. BMW is aiming at a record 2012, while Volkswagen, after starting the year with a global sales increase of 7.7%, is shooting at becoming number one in the world (in the US, the German group inaugurated a new factory in Chattanooga, Tennessee, last year. In the coming months, Audi, one of the VW group brands, will decide whether or not to open a plant in the US). The US is experiencing the greatest market expansion in the last four years (in February total light vehicle sales rose to 1.15 million units, which corresponds to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 15.1 million).

"With over 250 automotive source approvals, high-level European technology and a very good presence in the local American and Japanese automotive markets," Micheletti continued, "today we are part of the world supplier pool for the automotive industry. This is a market where there is ample room for growth in polyamide components and increasing demand for materials with a smaller environmental footprint. At the NPE show we are focusing on some of the leading products in our Radilon® range, which is made up of PA6, PA66 and PA610 engineering plastics combining high performance and reduced environmental impact. They are the right solution for the manufacture of difficult-to-engineer parts like under-the-hood components and for the replacement of metals or, as in the case of Radilon® PA610, the replacement of high environmental impact plastics used in applications such as pneumatic conduits, brake lines and fuel lines, to mention just a few."

We are also focusing on the Radiflam® nylon and PBT flame-retardant product lines that we have recently expanded to include automotive applications we did not previously target."

## FRONT AND CENTRE AT NPE



### **RADILON® A HHR (HIGH HEAT RESISTANT)...**

PA66 engineering plastics with exceptional heat resistance to aging in air at temperatures of up to 210°C.

- **Main applications: intercooler trays, turbo ducts and manifolds, resonators.**

At NPE2012 the spotlight will be on **RADILON® A BMV200 HHR 3800 NER** high-performance blow-molding materials, 20% glass-fiber filled PA66 engineering plastics with properties that make them ideal for applications such as turbo ducts (hot side), and **RADILON® A BMV150 HHR 3800 NER**, 15% glass-fiber filled PA66 plastics with excellent heat resistance. Among the molding products showcased at NPE2012 are **RADILON® A RV350 HHR 3800 NER** 35% glass-fiber filled PA66 engineering plastics specifically developed for the automotive industry for applications such as intercooler trays, turbo ducts and resonators.

### **RADILON® D...**

A line of PA610 engineering plastics, 60% made of biological polymers, for injection molding and extrusion.

- **Main applications: fuel line connectors, pneumatic conduits, brake lines, fuel lines.**

Compared to polyamides 6 and 66, RADILON® D materials show reduced moisture uptake and less loss of tensile strength and tensile modulus under wet conditions, better chemical resistance in contact with zinc chloride and calcium chloride solutions and, lastly, better glycol resistance. These RADILON® materials are ideal for applications such as fuel line connectors, pneumatic conduits, brake lines and fuel lines.

### **RADILON® A RV500 RW 339**

50% glass-fiber filled PA6 and PA66 engineering plastics ideal as metal and thermosetting material replacements.

- **Main applications: engine mounts, gearbox housings.**

Compared to traditional PA66 engineering plastics, RADILON® A RV500 RW 339 materials ensure higher tensile strength and deformation at break, higher tensile strength and deformation at break in the presence of joint lines, and greater impact resistance under both wet and dry conditions.

### **RADILON® S URV**

High-fluidity PA6 engineering plastics – 50%- and 60%-filled versions – ideal for structural components that were once made of metal.

- **Main applications: car seat frames.**

### **RADILON® A RV300 HRG 3900 NER**

### **RADILON® A GF300 RKC NER**

Glycol-resistant 30% glass-fiber filled PA66 engineering plastics.

- **Main applications: radiator tanks, thermostat housings, fittings.**

In producing the RADILON® A RV300 HRG 3900 NER line, both the polymer and compound have been optimized in order to maximize the glycol resistance properties. Some of the features of these materials are excellent mechanical properties (modulus and load), excellent impact strength, good processability and mouldability, and good wear and fatigue resistance even at high temperatures.

RADILON® A GF300 RKC NER materials are characterized by high content of recycled polyamides coming from a controlled source, superior mechanical properties and excellent reliability. These low environmental impact RadiciGroup products are ideal for critical automotive components.

During NPE, RadiciGroup Plastics is also presenting the **RADIFLAM® S**, **RADIFLAM® A** and **RADIFLAM® B** PA6, PA66 and PBT flame-retardant lines for injection molding and extrusion and **HERAFLEX® E** thermoplastic elastomers (TPC-ET) for injection molding.







**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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## RADICIGROUP PLASTICS PRODUCT RANGE...

**RadiciGroup Plastics products are used in applications not only in the automotive industry but also in the electrical/electronics, industrial and consumer goods sectors.**

PA6, PA66, PA610 and PA612 engineering polymers and copolymers	PA6, PA66 and PBT flame retardants	PBT
		
PA6 and PA66 green products	POM	TPEs
		

**IN THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY** RadiciGroup is one of the most highly regarded manufacturers of polyamide and polyester engineering plastics. With six plants strategically located in Italy, Brazil, the United States, Germany and China, RadiciGroup Plastics offers processing, quality control, research and development, and technological development support. A network of sales units – with a strong presence in Italy, Germany, France, Spain, Great Britain, the USA, Brazil, China and India – makes RadiciGroup Plastics a truly global organization, capable of meeting the needs of its customers worldwide on a timely basis. [WWW.RADICIGROUP.COM/PLASTICS](http://WWW.RADICIGROUP.COM/PLASTICS)

**RADICIGROUP** 3,500 employees. Production and sales sites in Europe, North America, South America and Asia. Diversified businesses focusing on chemicals, plastics and synthetic fibers. Know-how. Vertically integrated nylon production. Constant commitment to guaranteeing its customers quality, sustainable innovation and reliability. All this is RadiciGroup, a leader in nylon chemicals. RadiciGroup products are used in applications such as apparel, sports, furnishings, automotive, electrical/electronics, household appliances and consumer goods. [WWW.RADICIGROUP.COM](http://WWW.RADICIGROUP.COM) RadiciGroup, with its Chemicals, Plastics and Synthetic Fibers Business Areas controlled by parent company Radici Partecipazioni SpA, is part of a larger industrial group that also includes textile machinery and energy businesses. [WWW.RADICI.COM](http://WWW.RADICI.COM)

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