

Composite Solutions – the new core competency of the international RAMPF Group

Acquisition of Canadian company APEX Composites /
Holistic composites supplier to companies in the aerospace and medical industries

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Page 1 of 4

Grafenberg, April 4, 2016. The international RAMPF Group, an expert for engineering and chemical solutions, has officially launched its new core competency RAMPF Composite Solutions. With the integration of the Canadian company APEX Composites into the Group, RAMPF now also offers a complete suite of services including composite part design and engineering, tool making, tailored fiber placement, composite manufacturing to very tight tolerances, and metal-to-composite conversion engineering.

“RAMPF Composite Solutions enters the global composites market as a holistic supplier to companies in the aerospace and medical industries,” says Michael Rampf, CEO of RAMPF Holding. “RAMPF Composite Solutions stands for excellence in quality, speed-to-market, and customer service in all areas of composites engineering, manufacturing, and recycling. It provides state-of-the-art solutions in advanced carbon fiber and fiberglass composites, using the latest technologies. Core competencies include VARTM, resin infusion, metal plating, and value-added assembly.”



RAMPF Composite Solutions provides state-of-the-art solutions in advanced carbon fiber and fiberglass composites for the aerospace and medical industries.

RAMPF Composite Solutions is completely vertically integrated, offering project management, product development engineering, dedicated NPI services, tool design and manufacturing, and rapid prototyping. “We have the personnel – 75 highly skilled and motivated composite experts –, the know-how, and the infrastructure to quickly generate production processes for demanding designs of complex precision

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composite structures,” says Gerry Kavanaugh, founder of APEX Composites and now Director & CEO of RAMPF Composite Solutions based in Burlington, Ontario, Canada.

Elaborate business development plan and meticulously structured M&A process

“The decision to expand RAMPF’s existing portfolio of products and solutions to include lightweight composites is based on an elaborate business development plan and a meticulously structured M&A process”, explains Michael Rampf. On the one hand, potential new business opportunities were identified on the basis of so-called “mega-trends”, global drivers of change which fundamentally influence industries and markets, amongst others demographic change, urbanization, mobility, digitalization, and health care. On the other, potential new business fields were analyzed with regards to RAMPF’s ability to utilize already existing skills, competencies, know-how, and synergies between the RAMPF companies.

“In both cases, our conclusion was the same: lightweight composites is the business field with the greatest potential for RAMPF,” emphasizes Michael Rampf.

Significant synergy effects within the RAMPF Group

In the field of lightweight construction with composites there already exist a wide range of skills and competencies in the RAMPF Group:

- > **RAMPF Tooling Solutions**, an internationally renowned modeling and mold engineering expert, offers a comprehensive product portfolio of liquid materials, pastes, and boards specially developed for the composites industry. The use of these RAKU-TOOL[®] products and technologies maximizes the benefits inherent to lightweight construction with composites.
- > With its high-end dispensing and automation technology, **RAMPF Production Systems** will be able to contribute to further increasing productivity and automation of the production process at RAMPF Composite Solutions.
- > **RAMPF Machine Systems**, a leading supplier and development partner for multi-axis positioning and moving systems, rump machines, and basic machinery based on high-precision machine beds and machine bed components made from alternative materials, sees great potential for dynamically moving frame components made of composite materials, such as tables, slides, and beams.

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Furthermore, RAMPF will be able to strengthen its position in the NAFTA markets. As of now, RAMPF is operating in these markets with RAMPF Composite Solutions and **RAMPF Group, Inc.**, the North American subsidiary of the RAMPF Group, which specializes in RAKU-TOOL[®] products and solutions for modeling and mold engineering.

“In point of fact, the incorporation of APEX Composites represents another major step in the internationalization of the RAMPF Group”, Michael Rampf points out. “Over the course of just 35 years, RAMPF has developed from a one-man operation into one of the world's leading companies in the fields of engineering and chemical solutions. With our new core competency RAMPF Composite Solutions, we will now write a new chapter in this unique success story – this time in Canada.”

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Page 4 of 4

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The RAMPF Group stands for **engineering and chemical solutions** and caters to the economic and ecological needs of industry.

The range of competencies includes:

- > production and recycling of **materials** for modeling, lightweight construction, bonding, and protection;
- > technical **production systems** for precise, dynamic positioning and automation, as well as technologies for complex composite parts production;
- > comprehensive range of **solutions and services**, particularly for innovative customer-specific requirements.

With this know-how, RAMPF helps its customers to achieve profitable and sustainable growth.

The Group secures its presence on the international markets with more than 700 employees and six core competencies:

- > **RAMPF Machine Systems** based in Wangen (Göppingen), Germany, develops and produces multi-axis positioning and moving systems, trunk machines, and basic machines based on high-precision machine beds and machine bed components made from alternative materials.
- > **RAMPF Production Systems** based in Zimmern o. R., Germany, develops and produces low-pressure mixing and dispensing systems for bonding, sealing, foaming, and casting a wide variety of materials. The company also offers a wide range of automation skills relating to all aspects of process engineering.
- > **RAMPF Composite Solutions** based in Burlington, Ontario, Canada, is a holistic composites supplier to companies in the aerospace and medical industries. The company offers a complete suite of services including composite part design and engineering, metal-to-composite conversion engineering, and composite manufacturing to very tight tolerances.
- > **RAMPF Eco Solutions** based in Pirmasens, Germany, develops chemical solutions for the manufacture of high-quality alternative polyols from PU and PET waste materials. This expertise is also put to use in the planning and construction of customer-specific facilities for manufacturing polyols.
- > **RAMPF Polymer Solutions** based in Grafenberg (Metzingen), Germany, develops and produces reactive resin systems based on polyurethane, epoxy, and silicone. Its product portfolio includes liquid and thixotropic sealing systems, electro and engineering casting resins, edge and filter casting resins, and adhesives.
- > **RAMPF Tooling Solutions** based in Grafenberg (Metzingen), Germany, develops and produces board and liquid materials and semi-finished goods for cutting-edge modeling and mold engineering. The range of skills includes made-to-measure services and products such as pastes, large-volume and full-size castings for Close Contour models, and prototyping systems.

RAMPF has subsidiaries in Germany, the U.S., Japan, and China.

All RAMPF companies are united under a holding company – RAMPF Holding GmbH & Co. KG – based in Grafenberg (Metzingen), Germany.

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