



## The Composites Group: How we operate

### 1. Establishing the Composites Group

In connection with the Finnish Plastics Industries Federation, a group for reinforced plastics was established at a meeting held on February 9, 1999.

The reinforced plastics group changed its name to the Composites Group at the general meeting held on November 14, 2013. The Composites Group works today under the Finnish Plastics Industries Federation (FIPIF).

### 2. Tasks and objectives of the group

The group acts as a cooperation body for the reinforced plastic and plastic composite industry, monitors the development of technology and monitors and influences the standardization in the industry, promotes the development and implementation of training in the industry, implements joint projects to map the market and works to develop the general operating conditions of the industry.

The Composites Group's goals are

1. Acting as a discussion forum for the composite industry. Implementation, for example, as a seminar held once a year that brings together people in the field.
2. Monitoring of composite technology to find new production methods and new applications around the world.
3. Joint projects to support activities in the field. Utilization of available public financial support in projects.
4. Influencing the education of the composite industry at different levels.
5. Working proactively in environmental issues and promoting the circular economy of the composite industry, including LCA, life cycle thinking, and activities related to carbon footprints and handprints. To be an active player in enhancing the reuse of waste from composite production and products, as well as searching for and sharing measurement tools related to the topic.
6. To be an active actor in HSE issues.
7. Increasing the awareness of the composite industry.
8. Supporting the marketing of plastic composite products to make the materials equal alternatives to metal materials, for example by influencing industry standards.
9. Maintaining and developing connections with international organizations in the field of reinforced plastics and plastic composites and utilizing thereof.

The Composites Group follows the principles of a safe space in its operations.



### 3. Resources of the Composites Group

According to the operational principles for groups and divisions of FIPIF, the Composites Group has the option, by separate agreement, to hire a full-time or part-time person in the association's office to handle matters determined by the group.

The Composites Group pays the direct expenses incurred by the person's activities. FIPIF, on the other hand, provides the person with office space and office technology, provided that the said person's expertise and work input is always available also for the federation's general interests. The ratio of work input is agreed between the Composites Group and FIPIF.

The use of external resources in the implementation of goals can be done on a case-by-case basis.

The general meeting of the group accepts yearly the action plan that guides the activities of the Group.

### 4. Membership fees

The board of the group decides annually on the amount of the division fee. The division fee is based on five categories based on turnover:

- Large companies, turnover over 4 million euros per year
- Medium-sized companies, turnover 1-4 million euros per year
- Small companies, turnover less than 1 million euros per year
- Payment category for startups and micro-enterprises
- In addition, educational institutions have their own payment category.

The membership fees are invoiced by FIPIF.

### 5. Board of the Composites Group

The board consists of 8-14 member companies, at least half of which would represent product manufacturers. A board member is elected as a member of the company he represents. The board chooses the chairman from among its members. The secretary of the Group Board is the person assigned to the Composites Group.

The tenure for the board members is 2 years and is tied to the calendar year. Each member has a deputy, whose tenure of office is the same as his/her.

If a member of the board leaves the position and the company he/she represents does not appoint a new member, the deputy member becomes a member of the board.

### 6. European cooperation

The Composites Group is a member of the European umbrella organization of the composites industry, The European Composites Industry Association (EuCIA), and strives to influence the interests of the industry also through it.