

Fast reaction mechanisms for a new technology to produce surface modified thermoplastic parts by in-situ modification in injection moulding

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Surfaces of plastic parts often need a pre-treatment before they can be further bonded or painted. Such treatment procedures are done in separate processing units. It causes additional costs for equipment, handling and logistics. In this project the scientific background of an innovative approach of process-integrated surface modification by surface-reactive injection moulding is investigated and its potential explored. The approach uses the high temperature of the polymer melt in injection moulding for a chemical reaction that binds a polymeric modifier as a molecular layer onto the surface of the plastic part. The modification can be controlled very effectively by tailoring the type of the modifier and in contrast to many of the commonly used methods it may be permanent. The development of this innovation is essentially based on the strong interdisciplinary co-operation between engineers and chemists.

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