Press Release

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Excellence in Lightweight Production

AZL launches Joint Partner Project on High Value Composite Applications in Space & Defence

Aachen, July 2025 – AZL Aachen GmbH, a leading engineering partner for lightweight technologies, is initiating a new cross-industry collaboration titled "High Value Composite Applications – A Joint Market and Technology Study on Opportunities for Fiber-Reinforced Plastics in Space & Defence Applications." The project brings together international companies to explore and quantify the potential of fibre-reinforced plastics (FRP) in two of the most dynamic innovation markets: space and defence.

Shaping Emerging Markets with Composites

The demand for high-performance, lightweight, and modular components is accelerating rapidly in both sectors. With more than 50,000 satellites projected in orbit by 2035 and significant defence investments being implemented across Europe and beyond, the relevance of scalable composite-based structures has never been greater. This Joint Partner Project (JPP) aims to provide participants with a consolidated market and technology roadmap, combining deep technical insights with actionable strategic data.

A Proven Collaboration Format

The project will be executed as a Joint Partner Project – a pre-competitive, cost-shared initiative moderated and conducted by AZL. This format allows companies from across the value chain to jointly define focus topics, benefit from AZL's expertise in market and technology analysis, and contribute their own perspectives throughout the process. Having coordinated over 15 such industry projects with more than 200 participating companies, AZL offers proven processes for delivering structured outcomes and fostering effective exchange between partners.

Kick-off and Participation

The project will begin with a Kick-off Meeting on July 15th, 2025. All participating companies will have the opportunity to introduce their organizations, share their expectations, and help define the specific scope of the study. This setting fosters transparency, engagement, and cross-industry insights. Companies interested in participating are invited to request the detailed project description and schedule an individual consultation with AZL's industrial services team:

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Pictures for Download

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Image 1: Project Key-Visual © AZL Aachen GmbH

Image 2: Space satellite © SpaceX on Unsplash

About AZL Aachen GmbH

AZL stands for excellence in lightweight production. As one-stop shop for market and technology know-how, the senior staff of AZL supports companies of the entire value chain, in the development, benchmarking and improvement of design methodologies, manufacturing techniques and products. Located in the heart of one of the leading high-tech ecosystems, RWTH Aachen University, AZL assist in experimental evaluation of all relevant technologies related to composite-based multi-material technologies with decades of technology expertise and cutting-edge infrastructure.

In addition to individual cooperation, the AZL Partnership framework offer access to services and a network of international companies along the lightweight value chain. With three pillars advisory, engineering and partnership network, the AZL develops competitive innovations for economically highly relevant market segments and finds suitable partners for industrial implementation and establishment in the market.

www.lightweight-production.de