

Indratech partners with Teijin to create safe alternative to foam

Indratech, developer of a new technology for processing synthetic fiber materials, announced an alliance with Japan-based Teijin, a global leader in the chemical-industrial sector, to produce and market the first nontoxic, environmentally safe alternative to polyurethane foam in the United States.

Indratech, an upstart technology-based company with headquarters in Auburn Hills, Mich., is poised to take on the cushioning industry giants and their polyurethane foam. At stake is a market estimated to be more than \$5 billion.

Indratech has engineered a new process using Teijin's patented Elasty™ polyester fiber to create Indura Performance Fiber (IPF), a product without the health and fire hazards inherent in the foam used in chairs, cushions and mattresses today. Until now, fiber products could not match the performance standards of foam. Indratech has developed a proprietary manufacturing process that in specific applications equals or betters the important loft and resiliency of foam, as measured by independent testing agencies.

"There are numerous, well-documented hazards associated with foam," said Dr. Surendra Khambete, Indratech president. "It's highly flammable in its native state and, when treated with flame-retarding chemicals, poses a terrible health risk. Foam has no practical recyclable qualities, except to grind it into smaller units so it winds up in landfills where it will leach these same dangerous chemicals into the earth."

The new collaboration with Teijin grants license to patents and technology that Indratech uses in a proprietary process to create IPF.

For more information, call + 1 248 377 1877 or visit www.Indratech-us.com.



Top: Indratech, an upstart technology-based company with headquarters in Auburn Hills, Mich., is poised to take on the cushioning industry giants with the first nontoxic, environmentally safe alternative to polyurethane foam in the United States. At stake is a market estimated to be more than \$5 billion. Above: Indratech has engineered a new process using Japan-based Teijin's patented Elasty™ polyester fiber to create a product without the health and fire hazards inherent in foam used in chairs, cushions and mattresses today. The company's proprietary manufacturing process equals or betters the important loft and resiliency of foam, as measured by independent testing agencies.

Powerboat sales plane out

The 2006 powerboat sales decline seems to have flattened out in the new year, according to Info-Link's Bellwether Report, updated through January.

"Like all winter months, January should be taken into context," said Jesse Wells, Info-Link director of sales and marketing. "Looked at this way, it still appears as if the market slide that occurred through 2006 has at least stabilized."

Though all boat segments do not appear on the Bellwether Report, Info-Link reported that year over year numbers for all boats in the 26-foot range and above are up over two percent. Comparatively, all boats in the 18- to 25-foot range are down almost six percent.

Info-Link's January Bellwether Report, which is based on registrations of powerboats 15 feet in length and above, is available at: www.info-link.com/bellwetherreport.asp.