

## Membership

Membership of EPTA is open to all companies and individuals worldwide, without restriction. However it is mandatory for European Pultruders and Pultrusion Equipment Manufacturers to become FULL Members.

### FULL Membership

is aimed at all companies worldwide directly involved in pultrusion.

Membership Fee \*: EURO 1.028,- per year

### ASSOCIATED Membership

is aimed at research companies, end-users, universities and at the Pultrusion Industry allied businesses.

Membership Fee \*: EURO 386,- per year

### SPONSOR Membership

is aimed at raw material suppliers who wish to see the pultrusion industry flourish and expand.

Membership Fee \*: EURO 1.928,- per year

(\* plus one-time entrance fee  
for new members EURO 250,-

For further information please contact:  
Association Secretariate

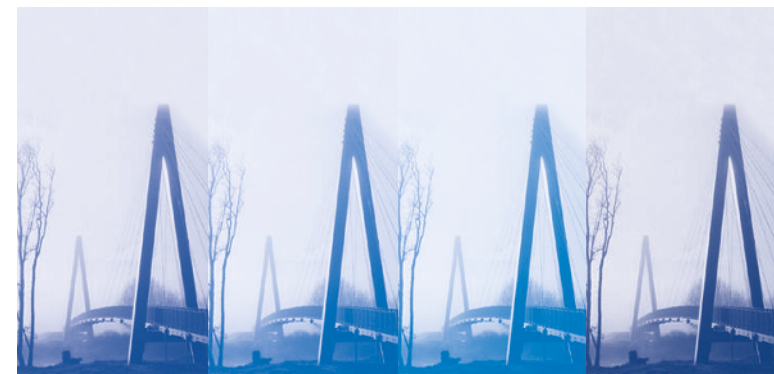
### EPTA

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## Sponsor Members



Fundamentals,  
objectives &  
membership

# What is Pultrusion

Pultrusion is one of the oldest processes for the manufacture of long fibre reinforced thermosetting plastics, and it is also the oldest continuous processing technique.

As early as 1954, W. B. Goldworthy, one of the pioneers of the fibre composite technique, presented a detailed description of the pertinent process and plant engineering principles to professional circles in the USA. This approach was largely employed to make profiles for uniaxial stress used, for instance, for fishing rods, ski poles, hammer handles, poles for vaulting, etc.

In parallel to this, Ernst Kühne also developed the pultrusion method in the early-mid 1950's at the technological development laboratory of Brown Boveri (BBC) in Baden/Switzerland (today known as ABB). He succeeded in producing the first pultrusion products with glass rovings impregnated with epoxy resin independently and without any external influence. This not only involved manufacturing the glass fibre/epoxy resin profiles but also designing the machinery and the precision moulded pultrusion tools that were essential for the process. Brand Goldworthy and Ernst Kühne first encountered each other at the beginning of the 1970's. While Kühne's expertise lay in the production of epoxy resin profiles, Goldworthy's experience was exclusively in the area of polyester resins.

In 1960 there were about 20 manufacturers all in all, located primarily in the United States; while today at least 90 pultruders are serving the main markets in the USA, Europe, and the Far East. The market volume in Europe alone reaches an estimated 46,000 tons p/a.

# The common aim and mission

The European Pultrusion Technology Association (EPTA) is an association formed in 1989 by the leading FRC (Fiber Reinforced Composites) Pultruders in Europe and is open for membership to all companies and organizations, wishing to participate in promoting the responsible use of Fiber Reinforced Composite Materials, and in the exchange of knowledge between members.

EPTA's mission is to support the growth of the composite profiles industry by maximising external communication efforts and having an actively contributing membership.

# The organisation:

## Official organs of the Association:

- the general assembly of all members
- the elected board

The AVK – Federation of Reinforced Plastics – is the association secretariat for the EPTA.



[www.avk-tv.de](http://www.avk-tv.de)

# Exemplary products



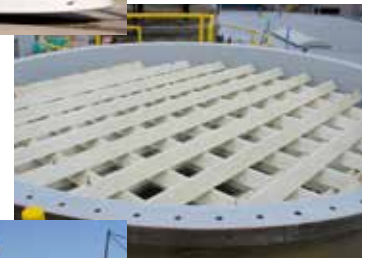
Deep Ocean Environmental Long Term Observatory System (DELOS)

Structural Profiles for Solar Panels



Tram Body Panel

Triangle Profiles for Scrubber



Staircase

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