

## Composites Design for Environment Framework



	Objective and Focus Points	Checklist	Cautions
Retaining value	Support repair and use	Develop skills in team to repair & reuse – product stewardship	Stay ahead of regulations
Procurement	Discuss expectations with customers & suppliers.	Develop supplier code of conduct	Identify existing & required infrastructure

## Explaining the Environment Framework strand by strand

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In this Flexi issue we focus on what can be practically done in the **Retaining Value and Procurement** strands of the framework.

**The Retaining Value Strand** – Fibreglass and carbon fibre composites materials have inbuilt benefits of being repairable, which retains the value our materials gain during manufacturing. How can we retain this value and help others understand the long life properties of composites?

**Getting started tips:** *Consultants* – Are you helping your clients stay across current and upcoming waste regulations and market expectations?

*Materials Suppliers* – Can you get a better idea of where your materials end up, so they can be re-used?

*Manufacturers* – Are there design elements that can be standardised, or made modular? How can customers identify which materials your product is made of?

*Researchers* – What research and testing could provide assurances a material is suitable for reuse?

**The Procurement Value Strand** – New materials and methods are increasingly available. This will need processes to determine suitability for use in your business's product – improvements and change management.

**Getting started tips:** *Consultants* – What supports do you provide for companies to inspect their highest impact procurement areas and seek alterna-



Armatec repurchased, repurposed and modified to reuse the scrubbing system at a customer site.

tives?

*Materials Suppliers* – What more could be done to promote or subsidise lower styrene, lower carbon emissions/footprint, recycled content or recyclable material offerings?

*Manufacturers* – Do you have a process set up for trialling new or lower impact technologies?

*Researchers* – How can research further optimise the performance of lower impact innovations such as natural fibres or recycled resins?

### Examples

Catherine at Armatec Environmental supplied the images on this page as examples of retaining value

with composites materials. Catherine says: "At Armatec we see the importance of long-term relationships with customers. They often return to us requesting design information, support with maintenance or repair of the equipment we have provided."

"I think we can expect this to increase as reuse and repurposing becomes more common and product stewardship solutions are expected by customers."

If you would like to further discuss these ideas or gain access to our consultant discussing the framework in depth, contact:

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katie.glasgowpalmer@actionmanufacturing.co.nz. ■

Our specialist trade shop is open six days. Give us a call 09 570 8999 or free phone 0800 100 098.

AOC resins including vinyl esters

AKPA catalysts and special blends

INTEC/SLEM mould-making resins

LILLY RAM tooling gel coat

PRESTEC plug surfacing & tooling gel coat repair

STONER release products

LEADGO for closed moulding

New Zealand Fibreglass over the past year has expanded its product offer to include...

The above products add to the extensive range that NZFG had already been able to offer you as a customer, such as Graco equipment, reinforcements, core materials, gel coats and flow coats, closed mould ancillaries, laminating epoxies and many other products required for producing composite parts.

NEW ZEALAND FIBREGLASS

SUPPLIES EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY



Service life # 1: Armatec designed, manufactured and installed the air pollution control systems to fit a client's site.

