

## **Lightweight: Interview with Frank Kerstan**

**Frank Kerstan, Global Program Manager Automotive Composites, Henkel Adhesive Technologies.**

### **How does Adhesives Technologies contribute to more sustainable production processes?**

Adhesives, sealants and functional coatings are important elements for many products and manufacturing processes worldwide. Their use in various sectors contributes to reducing the carbon footprint of everyday and advanced products. In addition, our solutions enable new and sustainable manufacturing processes. For example by offering automotive adhesives that can be directly applied to surfaces without preparation, material can be saved and production costs can be reduced significantly.

### **Why should a manufacturer rely on Henkel's products?**

We understand ourselves as solution provider. With special regard to the automotive industry it is important to partner with our customers right from the start, so that we understand their needs and develop tailored and integrated solutions – for today's but also for future design and manufacturing challenges. We always focus on market-driven mega trends such as lightweight, sustainability, alternative energy, fuel efficiency and increased safety & comfort.

### **Lightweight is a keyword – why and in which way is Henkel driving this megatrend?**

With weight reduction in modern vehicles having become essential – particularly in the face of strict exhaust requirements – as an avenue for decreasing both fuel consumption and CO2 emissions, lightweight construction technologies are constantly gaining in importance. Composite materials combine savings in weight with enormous strength, thus also offering outstanding properties with regard to safety and crash behavior. Composites in the automobile industry provide an excellent example of how Henkel is able to develop integrated solutions based on its technological expertise. We provide comprehensive composite solutions, including not only matrix resins but also engineering and process know-how for manufacturing

fiber reinforced composites as well as a portfolio of tailored adhesives for multi-substrate bonding and composite assembly.