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04. April 2005

ILIPT Press Release

ILIPT develops innovative technologies, logistics concepts and cooperation models.

The European 5-Day Car has begun.

These days it is not unusual for someone who has just bought a car to wait for two months for its delivery. Hence, the need for a remedy: A car, manufactured and delivered within five days, assembled to the specific desires of the customer resulting in a reduction of stocks within the supply chain. This visionary task, which is to become reality in 2015, is undertaken by a consortium consisting of 30 industrial partners and universities, as well as small and medium-size companies of the European automobile industry. In order to achieve this, the consortium started the ILIPT (Intelligent Logistics for Innovative Product Technologies) research project in July 2004.

The ILIPT project, due to run for four years, has an available investment of 16.3 million euros. Furthermore, the European commission supports the project with nine million euros. The leadership of the overall project is held by ThyssenKrupp Automotive AG, a world-wide leading automobile supplier.

Some initial innovative ways to create the 5-Day car idea have already been put forward during the first eight months of the project. The project is divided into three points of focus:

- **Modular Car**
Changes to the vehicle configuration and manufacturing processes
- **Flexible Supply Networks**
The generation of new, innovative logistics concepts for a flexible supplier and manufacturing network



- **Integration of Complex Product Processes**

The creation of new software tools in order to control the flow processes

The "**Modular Car**" theme is divided into three work packages:

The project partners pursue three main objectives in the "Technical and Method integrator" work package. The first goal is the development and prototype conversion of new methods and tools for the reduction of the complexity in product and process as well as for the optimisation of the number of variants in the product developing phases. A further goal deals with the integration of the modules developed within ILIPT into the modular 5-Day Car. Finally, the modular 5-Day Car concept is also to be evaluated in this work package.

New concepts and assembly technologies on themes such as body structure, external modules, glazing as well as the "plastic rear flap module" are to be investigated in the "Exterior & Structure" work package.

The "Interior & Electronics" work package is concerned with topics such as the integrated electromagnetic valve drive, integrated modular cockpit and integrated seat modules. These create the technical basis for the 5-Day Car.

The "Modular Car" theme relies on Ceramicx, DaimlerChrysler, Debonding, EFTEC, FEV, Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, Freeglass, Lear, Saint Gobain, Siemens VDO Automotive, the Technical University of Dresden, ThyssenKrupp Automotive and TRW.

The second theme, "**Flexible Supply Network**", covers new logistics concepts within a flexible production network, new forms of functional cooperation between the companies involved along the value chain of the 5-Day Car and their compatibility.

The flow of material and information, planning and control processes as well as supporting IT systems, play a central role, on the road to a 5-Day Car, within the ILIPT project. Today, the flow of information between partners in a supply chain is frequently limited. Many disturbances are currently found in planning and execution processes. For example, many partners in the supply chain do not have transparent and current information on demand and capacity.

The partners for this theme are DaimlerChrysler, Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, Hella, Siemens, Siemens VDO Automotive as well as the universities of Bath and Patras.

The third theme dedicates itself to the "**Integration of Complex Product Processes**" (IntePro). In the context of IntePro, methods are to be developed which make it possible to validate innovative concepts within the product design, network design and order processing areas. In order to evaluate the new concepts and ideas being produced in the different ILIPT working groups, it is necessary to develop a new BTO structure and an adequate reference model.



The concepts which can be evaluated contain new ways for modular production, and new planning methods for the supply chain. For this reason, the core objective is the development of a software prototype for the static and dynamic evaluation of concepts within the 5-Day Car.

The following partners work together on this theme under the leadership of the University of Bath: 4flow, BMW Motoren, Dana Corporation, EBP, Fachhochschule Nordostniedersachsen, Ferrostaal, Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, ThyssenKrupp Automotive, Cambridge University, Plastic Omnium, Platos, Siemens VDO Automotive and SPIIRAS.

For further information, please refer to:

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