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EL-BO PRODUKTION USE RENPASTE® TO BUILD “DEFINITIVE” CONCEPT CAR

A Danish-led consortium of designers, prototype materials and production companies, has produced a full size car model that is being hailed as the definitive concept vehicle.

The Libra Concept Car is a supercar design first shown at the Copenhagen Motor Show 2004. It is now displayed in the Innovatum Företagens Hus (technical museum), in Sweden and used as a demonstration case in the nearby Virtual Reality Centre.

Libra was created by automotive designer, Mads Odgaard, working with CAD design company, UGS Solutions, and EL-BO Produktion, one of Denmark’s leading composite mould, industrial model and sandwich panel manufacturers.

EL-BO Produktion was chosen because of its ability to handle production of a full size car model from CAD data to finished, painted vehicle. EL-BO also use the most innovative modelling materials, such as Huntsman Advanced Materials RenPaste seamless modelling paste, which was specified for the Libra car.

CAD Data to Substructure

EL-BO Produktion worked from CAD data and used their large-scale computer-controlled CNC cutting facility to produce the car's substructure, measuring 2m x 4m, from a block of lightweight polyurethane foam.

RenPaste Application

RenPaste SV/HV 4503-1 brown modelling paste was applied by machine in a 5 to 8mm thick layer over the foam substructure. EL-BO Produktion's 100% CAD centric production methods including computer-controlled extrusion of RenPaste materials, minimises the requirement for any additional hand application of paste. The paste model was milled to size in EL-BO's Finishing & Paint Shop giving a smooth surface finish.

Finishing and Painting

RenPaste SV/HV 4503-1 provides an excellent basis for painting and a high gloss surface finish. EL-BO engineers used a standard metallic silver automotive paint on the Libra bodywork. A black reflective paint was used for the windows and radiator grill. An opaque paint was used for the front headlights and red paint for the rear lights.

"EL-BO Produktion specialise in making 100% CAD centric models using RenPaste materials not only for the automotive industry but for marine, aerospace and wind turbine applications as well," explained Bo Vinter Poulson, (Engineer,) at EL-BO. "This combination of innovative technology and materials enables us to produce high quality finished parts and models to tight time schedules, often just 8-10 weeks from data to completion.

"We use RenPaste 4503-1, 4616 and 4618 SMP materials for a range of applications - each providing just the right set of characteristics to meet our requirements. RenPaste materials are also easy to handle, do not present storage issues and help to keep milling waste to a minimum."

For further information about Huntsman Advanced Materials rapid prototyping and production materials go to www.huntsman.com and click on advanced materials. For more information on EL-BO Produktion go to www.el-bo.dk

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