New lightweight and bio-sourced solutions for cars' interiors

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As environmental and climate change concerns have grown, regulations have been tightened—particularly those governing vehicles' CO2 emissions. Given this shift, vehicle weight reduction—one of the most effective methods for cutting emissions—now plays a pivotal role in Faurecia's innovation strategy, enabling the company to provide carmakers with lighter equipment and do its part to support sustainable mobility.

Bio-sourced materials, developed from plant-based fibers, are a crucial component in Faurecia's weight reduction technologies and boast several advantages: in addition to lower mass for equivalent performance when compared with traditional materials and reduced environmental impact they also generate new opportunities for the agricultural industry.

As part of their research and development efforts and inscribe in the natural fibers strategy for weight saving, Faurecia's teams and their partners have developed:

- NAFILean™ Is injectable material made from hemp fibers with proven interior systems applications available in the automotive parts market. The resulting injected parts are 20 % lighter than their traditional counterparts. NAFILean is compatible with the manufacture of complex shapes like door panels and dashboards.
- NAFILite™ is a combination between microcellular foaming process by injection (with mould opening technology) and the NAFILean™ material grade. This NAFILite™, enables a breakthrough weight saving of 30% versus the current market reference for injected structural parts in automotive interior, as Instrument Panels.
- Further to the above, Faurecia is also working on extra-lightweight solutions and higher renewable resources content that the Compression Molding applications can offer by using diverse Natural Fibres, these including Wood Fibres.