

Bcomp, a Top 100 Global Cleantech Company, Closes US \$40M (CHF 36M) Series C Funding to Foster Mobility Decarbonisation with High-Performance Bio-Based Materials

Market leader's flax fibre-based composites integrate seamlessly into production processes by major auto manufacturers, reducing CO2 impacts by up to 60% over standard materials.

Fribourg, Switzerland, 2024-04-16 – Bcomp, the global leader in high-performance, natural fibre composites for the mobility-, recreational-, and mass transportation sectors and listed as a Top 100 Global Cleantech Company, today announced it has completed a US \$40M (CHF 36M) Series C investment funding round. The round was led by EGS Beteiligungen AG (EGSB), a major Swiss institutional investor focused on growth-stage companies. Verve Ventures, Zürcher Kantonalbank, and RKKVC are additional new investors.

The funding round also saw a group of Series A and Series B participants deepen their investment in Bcomp, including Generali and Airbus Ventures, in addition to strategic investment funds associated with high-profile OEMs such as BMW i Ventures, Porsche Ventures and Volvo Cars Tech Fund.

"The success of this funding round speaks to the belief of investors in our high-performance decarbonisation solutions," said Bcomp Chairman Christian Jaag. *"This investment will expand our existing markets as well as propel our growth into exciting new sectors."*

The funding will help Bcomp scale its production capacity to convert an advanced pipeline of commercial opportunities in industrial automotive and support its entry into new markets in Asia and North America. Already seeing industrial-scale applications of its ground-breaking products at Volvo and Polestar, the Swiss-based company will also build on its leadership position in the bio-composite market by introducing lightweighting and sustainable solutions for additional verticals that include rail, buses, aviation, aerospace and consumer goods.

Bcomp's patented range of flax-based reinforcement fabrics – powerRibs™ and ampliTex™ – are pioneering technologies that can be used by OEMs as substitutes for standard materials like carbon, glass or plastic in its target markets. In specific applications, powerRibs™ and the ampliTex™ technical fabric ranges offer superior lightweighting and stiffness potentials relative to synthetic composites. The materials also offer distinct advantages including high-vibration damping, and enhanced safety as the materials do not shatter upon impact. By adopting these sustainable solutions and achieving dematerialisation through reduced material usage, it's possible to significantly decrease CO2 emissions across the entire lifecycle of customer products, from production through to end-of-life.

"We are very impressed by the maturity and leadership of such a young Swiss company in the field of sustainable, lightweight performance materials," said David Kurmann, Investment Director at EGSB. *"They are offering unprecedented solutions to decarbonisation at a time when the global manufacturing sector is trying to meet its carbon-neutral objectives."*

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Originally developed to lighten and reinforce backcountry skis, Bcomp's bio-based composites have been adapted and field-tested in motorsports to deliver performance benefits and positive sustainable impacts. OEMs associated with investors like BMW i Ventures, Porsche Ventures and Volvo Cars Tech Fund are already using powerRibs™ and ampliTex™. For example, ampliTex™ fabric is being applied at volume for visible interior components in the new electric Volvo EX30, while BMW is using both products in the design of performance interior and exterior parts for its BMW M4 GT4.

"We continue to be excited by Bcomp's growth and its launch into the global mobility market," said Claas Carsten Kohl, Partner at Airbus Ventures. "Their innovative natural fibre composites are designed to help OEMs decarbonise their supply chains by providing powerful, pragmatic and economical lightweighting solutions to aid in boosting performance."

The company's innovative materials contribute significantly to decarbonisation by allowing, for automotive interiors, a reduction in plastic content by up to 70% and total weight savings of up to 50% compared with traditional materials and techniques. The use of these natural, high-performance materials can also reduce the quantity of CO2 emitted from cradle to gate by up to 60% and parts can be recycled and repurposed to serve a second life in another set of components. With certifications including IATF 16949 and ISO 9001, the thermoplastic product range is also a drop-in solution that can be seamlessly integrated into volume production processes.

"Not only are we facing more stringent regulations for carbon outputs, but consumers and manufacturers everywhere understand that we need to decarbonise to preserve our global environment," said Bcomp CEO and Co-Founder Christian Fischer. "The quality and status of investors in our Series C clearly demonstrate their belief that our bio-based composites offer a viable path towards carbon neutrality without compromising on the rigorous performance requirements of our customers for their demanding applications."

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About Bcomp

Bcomp is a Swiss cleantech company and global leader in sustainable lightweighting solutions, also recognised as a [Global Cleantech 100](#) company. Its proprietary natural fibre-based reinforcement materials – ampliTex™ and powerRibs™ – help decarbonise manufacturing and reduce environmental impacts in a wide range of high-performance applications. These include motorsports, automotive interiors, mass transit, recreational equipment, consumer goods and the aerospace industry. Bcomp's team offers global engineering support and guidance from concept through to industrial manufacturing out of its Fribourg headquarters in Switzerland and an office in Shanghai, China. For more information: www.bcomp.com

About EGS Beteiligungen AG

EGS Beteiligungen AG (EGSB) is the investment arm of the Ernst Göhner Foundation in Zug/Switzerland. It implements the entrepreneurial purpose of the Ernst Göhner Foundation and strengthens it in the fulfillment of its philanthropic mission. The company invests a significant part of the foundation's assets in Swiss companies, contributes actively to the sustained positive development of these companies and secures the preservation of jobs and know-how in Switzerland.

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Note to Editor

Interviews in English, French and German can be arranged.
Photos are available upon request.