



Mulilo Danish Vocational Education & Training Program in Composite Technology

Education Materials (Examples)



In our MDVP Composite Technology vocational education and training program, you will get access to a wide variety of education and training materials, covering all you need to know about working with composite materials and moulds, as well as the chemicals and production, finishing, and repair techniques applied in the composite industry.

Here, we want to give you a little taste of the types of materials you will be meet during the program.

All materials are yours to keep and use – also after you complete your vocational education and training at Techcollege.

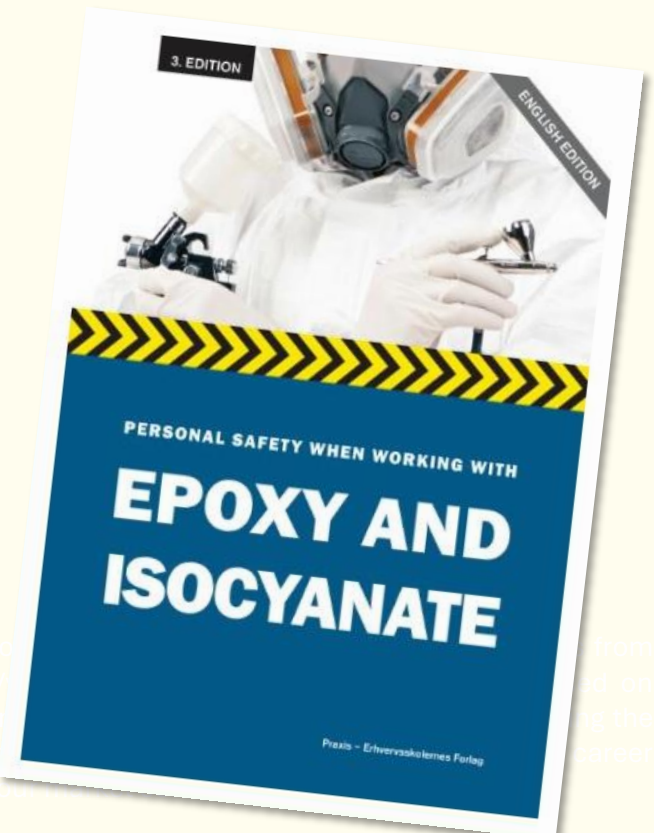
1. Safety Handbook

As part of your training, you will receive your own personal copy of the book: “Personal Safety when working with Epoxy and Isocyanate (English Edition)”.

This book contains all the important safety precautions and European professional standards for working safely and professionally with composite technology processes.

We will use the standards of this book actively in each and every workshop exercise and process throughout your training.

The overall goal of the Mulilo Danish Vocational Program is to provide the program target group – job-relevant technical skills and knowledge – Danish and European Union standards and vocational training – to support participants’ potential for positive social mobility and employment opportunities within a South African society and labour market.



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2. Presentations of theory and technical subjects

Your trainer will introduce and present new theory and new technical subjects with the use of digital presentations (made in Microsoft PowerPoint or similar). All of these presentations will be placed on our **Digital Learning Platform** for you to download and store on your own computer.

The goal of the presentations is to give you a quick overview of the most important concepts and learning points of the subject – and you can add your own notes to each presentation to help you remember the key details.

Here is an example of (parts of) a presentation introducing various repair techniques, which may be used on composite products:

Presentation of one repair technique in headlines:

Patch repair

Advantages

- Fast
- Less need of removing "good" material compared to other repair techniques
- Less quality requirements
- Suitable for minor repairs

Disadvantages

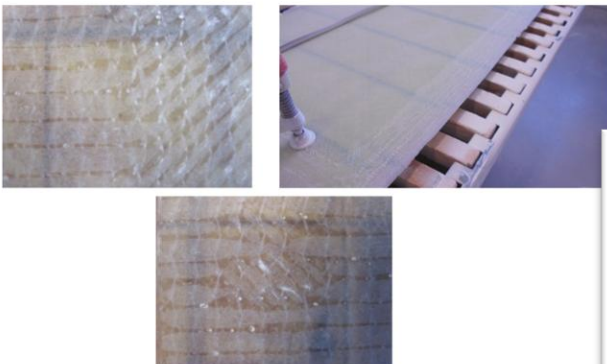
- Not suitable where there is demands for a nice surface
- Poor tensile strength

Patch repair

- Cut/grind damaged material away
- Fill up the hole/gap and laminate on top
- This is temporary and not for use in critical structure layers



Illustrations of repair technique application:



Technical specifications reference table:

Type of Material	OverLaps		
	Longitudinal (Span)	Transverse (Chord)	Example
Biax (Glass)	5%	5%	600 gsm biax fiber glass Longitudinal = $600 \times 0.05 = 30\text{mm}$ Transverse = $600 \times 0.05 = 30\text{mm}$
UD (Glass)	10%	2%	600 gsm UD fiber glass Longitudinal = $600 \times 0.10 = 60\text{mm}$ Transverse = $600 \times 0.02 = 12\text{mm}$
Triax (Glass)	Biax (5%) + UD (10%)	2.5%	1200 gsm Triax fiber glass = 600 gsm biax + 600 gsm UD Longitudinal = $600 \times 0.05 + 600 \times 0.10 = 30 + 60 = 90\text{mm}$ Transverse = $1200 \times 0.025 = 30\text{mm}$ 1500 gsm Triax fiber glass = 658 gsm biax + 936 gsm UD Longitudinal = $658 \times 0.05 + 936 \times 0.10 = 32.9 + 93.6 = 126.5\text{mm}$ ("125mm") Transverse = $1500 \times 0.025 = 37.5\text{mm}$ ("35mm")
Carbon UD	12%	2%	250 gsm carbon UD Longitudinal = $250 \times 0.12 = 30\text{mm}$ Transverse = $250 \times 0.02 = 5\text{mm}$



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3. Material Compendia for you to use as Reference

For the different subjects in your vocational education and training, we put together a number of digital compendia, which you may download from our **Digital Learning Platform**, store on your own computer, and use as reference material to help you when you are working on exercises and project assignments.

The goal of each compendium is to give you an easy reference access to key knowledge and data relevant for the relevant subject – that you can come back to and use whenever you need it.

Here is an example of an initial compendium, introducing you to the concept of “Matrix” in composite Materials:

Theory Material for MDVP Composite Education

Composite materials – Matrix

In this compendium we will try to go through the most commonly used different properties.

The compendium will form the basis for your knowledge about matrix over the rest of the education.

At the same time, there will be a lot of new words, technical terms and that it is necessary to learn and use in everyday life.

Composite Materials

The definition of composite materials must be understood as a materials which are different from each other, and when put together, completely different from their individual properties

What is matrix?

The plastic in plastic-based composite materials is called matrix and is used as the matrix material in composites.


Thermosets are hardened by a chemical reaction in which the material becomes extremely strong and resistant to wear, impact. The hardening process also means that it is not possible to make new shapes. Changes after hardening can only be made by mechanical grinding.

Thermoplastics are the name for a number of types of plastic which they can be shaped by adding heat in the production process. They are easy to work with in relatively short-term mechanical properties, profitable to mass-produce thermoplastic-based composite materials.

- The matrix material in a composite has three functions
- Transferring the strength to the fibres that will carry the load
- Protecting the fibres from mechanical damage and environmental factors
- Reducing cracking

Applications

Since World War II, plastic-based composite materials have been used in many areas, including materials made of carbon fibres and thermosetting epoxies.



Polyester	
Benefits	Disadvantages
Known and easy to use	Evaporation of styrene
	Moderate technical properties
	Shrinkage during curing

Vinylester	
Benefits	Disadvantages
Very high resistance to salty water	Post-curing at raised temperature recommended
Better mechanical properties	High styrene content (no styrene damper)
	Shrinkage during curing
	More expensive than polyester

Epoxy	
Benefits	Disadvantages
High mechanical and thermal properties	Most expensive
Very high water-resistance	Demands accurate mixing
Little shrinkage during curing	Risk of eczema and allergies
Very good adhesion	Need for post-curing
Less need of extraction	



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4. Workshop Assignments

During your training, you will perform many practical assignments in our composite workshop. Some are small exercises, some are larger projects, and you will work both individually and in teams. In many of the assignments, we have created realistic industry-like production or repair tasks, where you must calculate correct the production material amounts and measurements to use – and the perform the task in practise.

Here is the assignment description of the first assignment, you will meet in working with fibreglass and epoxy in practise in our workshop:

Composites Department

Hand lamination.

This exercise is carried out as the first exercise with fiberglass and epoxy.

The purpose of the exercise is to experience how the materials react and how to use the different tools. The produced laminate will be used for practicing cutting and finish of a composite product

Mould:

Aluminum mould, size 1000 x 600 mm.

Mould is cleaned of foil and epoxy residues, use chemical gloves.

Mould surface is lightly sanded with a suitable grain size.

Mould surface is cleaned with denatured alcohol and wiped with a cloth.

Mould surface is applied with a Hi-Temp. Wax from REXCO, 3 layers., for easy release of laminate

Wax on – Wax off after 15 min.

Reinforcement material, fiberglass:

Item size: Length approx. 800 mm x Width 500 mm

- 8 layers of the selected glass mat of 800 mm x Width 500 mm (mat type, 650 gr/m2 Biax combi-mat)
- The total glass quantity is weighed, and the weight is noted
- The total epoxy quantity is calculated (Glass weight + 200 grams)

Matrix:

Epoxy system Bodopox 5501 and Bodocure INF32 Medium: Resin 100 parts and Hardener 28 parts

Total epoxy weight: _____ grams

Total laminate weight: _____ (weight of epoxy and glass after casting)

Calculate material consumption:

- Resin: $\text{Epoxy weight} / 132 \cdot 100 = \text{_____ grams}$
- Hardener: $\text{Epoxy weight} / 132 \cdot 28 = \text{_____ grams}$

Mix carefully on weight and stir with a machine for at least 2 minutes.

Apply the stirred epoxy to the glass, with a brush or roller.

The mold is placed on a rack in an oven and subsequently post-cured, overnight, at 50° C for 16 hours.

After post-curing, the laminate must be demoulded.