

Composites in High Performance Cars

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ABSTRACT

Innovative design and technology are core aspects of delivering the performance, style and quality required of the world's absolute best sports cars. The use of advanced materials play a vital role in this mission. For example, the Chevrolet Corvette has, from its inception more than 50 years ago, had composites as a central aspect of its proven formula of striking style, low mass, spirited performance and excellent value. These same benefits remain crucial today. But, in a global marketplace crowded with strong offerings, an intense race is on to achieve unprecedented new levels of quality, appearance, cost efficiency, development time and styling flexibility. GM's Performance Cars -- the Corvette and landmark new Cadillac XLR -- have pioneered the use of advanced materials. But, even more innovation is required in the future. Mr. Hill will address these challenges and opportunities, with a focus on what the future may hold for advanced materials.