

Our heritage

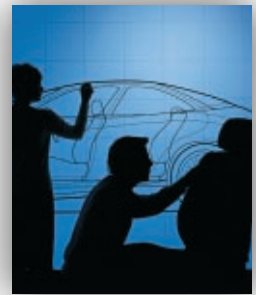
Turning the vast brine deposits of Eastern Michigan into one of the largest and most viable chemical companies in the world exemplifies the tradition of creativity and innovation on which The Dow Chemical Company was founded. Magnesium was first extracted from brine in the early 1900s, and since then The Dow Chemical Company has continued to serve the transportation industry with materials science-based products.

Dow Automotive was formed as a business group of The Dow Chemical Company in 1988 and continues to excel in delivering plastics-enhanced products and systems for automotive interior, exterior and chassis/powertrain applications.

Our direction

It is unlikely that the pioneers of the global automotive industry would have imagined body panels or engine components made of plastic. Or, that a vehicle could be manufactured in such a way that it is virtually impervious to dust, dirt, fumes and moisture. Yet, Dow Automotive has put together a team with a shared vision that turns what can be imagined into reality.

Today, we have the broadest plastic technology-based materials portfolio available to the automotive industry and it is our goal to pursue every opportunity to provide even more innovative solutions for materials, parts, modules and systems to our global customers.



Industrial pioneer, Herbert H. Dow, turned vision into reality in the form of The Dow Chemical Company. That vision is alive today in Dow Automotive. We turn invention into innovation in the pursuit and creation of materials, parts, modules and systems solutions for the global automotive industry.



Dow

Compound:

43519

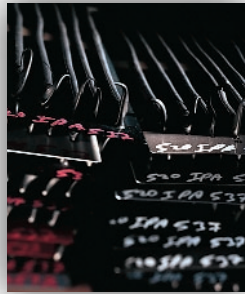
15

M72004

Our offerings

Reorganized in late 1999, Dow Automotive is the first industry-focused business unit created by The Dow Chemical Company. The subsequent integration of Essex Specialty Products, Inc. and Gurit-Essex GmbH with Dow Automotive adds world-class adhesives, sealants, body structure enhancement and thermal and acoustical management products and systems to our growing offering of products, systems and services.

All this, combined with our design, engineering, testing, validation, product launch and program management expertise, provides the automotive industry with a global leader committed to the success of our customers.



Organization and global support

The Dow Automotive organization takes concepts from ideation to commercialization by designing, developing, manufacturing and distributing products and systems that help automotive OEMs, Tier One integrators and the automotive aftermarket meet goals to:

- Reduce weight for better fuel economy
- Heighten vehicle performance
- Decrease overall costs
- Increase strength for occupant safety
- Enhance occupant comfort
- Improve vehicle aesthetics

And, as a business unit of The Dow Chemical Company, we are supported by and utilize the resources of one of the largest chemical technology and science-based solutions companies in the world.

Dow Automotive employs people in more than 40 cities on six continents at sales offices, global automotive centers and manufacturing facilities throughout North America, South America, Europe, Asia/Pacific, South Africa, India and the Middle East. Our world headquarters are located in Auburn Hills, Michigan with R&D and advanced engineering labs in Auburn Hills and Midland, Michigan; Freeport, Texas and Sarnia, Ontario, Canada. European R&D operations are located in Terneuzen, The Netherlands and Meyrin and Freienbach, Switzerland.

Dow Automotive's world-class products and systems are supported by a global organization dedicated to meeting and exceeding our customers' expectations from ideation to commercialization.



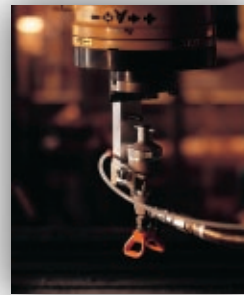


Capabilities

Materials science combined with a broad range of technical capabilities is what allows us to deliver innovative materials, parts, modules and systems to our global customers. Dow Automotive's advanced engineering expertise combines design and engineering with materials science know-how to create solutions that best meet performance, weight, and cost requirements to satisfy customers' current and future vehicle programs. In-house testing and validation along with program and supply-chain management expertise allow Dow Automotive to support customers from design through product launch.

Advanced engineering capabilities include design concept and evaluation, modularization, CAD/CAE, finite element analysis, design optimization through tool and prototype development, mold-filling analysis and occupant safety testing. In addition, our in-depth understanding of material performance empowers us to create or customize the optimum material for the appropriate application and includes processing method and equipment selection recommendations. We also have relationships with independent labs and customer proving grounds to further evaluate the performance of our materials, components and systems in simulated and actual driving conditions.

Our global facilities are ISO-9001 registered and QS-9000 certified and we continue to receive prestigious and respected quality awards from OEMs around the world.



Dow Automotive optimizes its materials and systems through comprehensive R&D, design, engineering, testing and validation services. Combined with prototype development, processing and equipment selection expertise, we offer capabilities that support customers from design through product launch.

World-class products and systems

In our role as a supplier of superior, plastics-enhanced products and systems, Dow Automotive offers the broadest materials portfolio to the automotive industry. These materials include polypropylene, nylon, ABS, polycarbonate, SAN, crystalline polymers, thermoplastic urethanes, adhesive films, engineering plastic blends (like PC/ABS), polyurethanes and vinyl ester resins.

With the integration of Essex and Gurit-Essex into the Dow Automotive organization, we now offer glass bonding systems, structural adhesives, reinforcing composites, sealer systems, acoustical/structural foams, acoustical damping systems, lightweight sound absorber material, injection-molded cabin-side barriers and a variety of under-the-hood engine covers and noise shields.

Dow Automotive supplies its world-class products and systems to global OEM and Tier One integrators of passenger vehicles, medium- and heavy-duty trucks, buses, rail coaches, recreational vehicles and other transportation and industrial equipment. The aftermarket businesses of Essex and Gurit-Essex have also been integrated into Dow Automotive and are responsible for the distribution of glass bonding and body repair systems into the global automotive and commercial transportation aftermarkets.

Looking forward

As the first industry-focused business unit of The Dow Chemical Company, Dow Automotive will continue to grow by fostering a culture that embraces invention and innovation to create value for our customers. We have populated our organization with like-minded individuals that are not only committed to the automotive industry, but are highly enthusiastic about their participation in it.

We will continue to build on what we do best as well as to pursue ongoing innovation that supports our vision of becoming a world leader in the automotive industry. Dow Automotive will accomplish this through extending our global reach, by becoming a solutions and technology enabler and through integrating our processing, engineering analysis and concept design with our growing product portfolio.

At Dow Automotive, we work hand-in-hand with our customers to translate materials science into innovative products and systems – throughout the vehicle, throughout the world. To learn more about the parts, modules and systems supported by our wide range of multifunctional products, please call 248-391-6300, visit our web site at www.dowautomotive.com or email dowautomotive@dow.com.



Applications Summary

Interior Components & Systems

- Instrument panel substrates and sub-assemblies
- Interior door panels
- Molding, interior trim (pillars, panels, package shelves)
- Acoustical management systems
- Energy management systems
- Sealing systems
- Overhead systems
- Thermal management systems
- Cushioning materials (doors, armrests, headrests, seats)
- Seating hardware
- Steering wheels

Exterior Components & Systems

- Front and rear systems
- Body panels
- Wheel covers
- Truck beds
- Grilles
- Molding, cladding, spoilers
- Energy management systems
- Acoustical management systems
- Structural enhancement systems
- Glass bonding systems
- Sealing systems

Chassis/Powertrain Components & Systems

- Injection-molded covers and barriers
- Acoustical management systems
- Thermal management systems
- Electrical connectors
- Air induction, thermal, sealing and fuel system components
- Brake and steering system components
- Structural/mechanical components