

# Bamboo fibre reinforced polypropylene and bioplastic compounds

Netherlands based Transmare Compounding B.V. was using Fakuma as the launch platform for a new range of products reinforced with fibres from 100% renewable raw materials. The new compounds, which carry the Transmare brand, are based on polypropylene (PP) and biodegradable polylactic acid (PLA) and utilise bamboo fibre reinforcement. The fibre fractions generated range from very coarse to fine micronised powders, which are free flowing

and look like wood but are said to offer good performance across properties as strength, light weight, wear resistance and exhibition of low water absorption. The bamboo fibre reinforced compounds can be processed by injection moulding or extrusion in the same way as those using other reinforcements. Long bamboo fibres can also be blended in a thermoplastic matrix to form compression mouldable mats.