PRESS RELEASE **21st May 2025**

TECH-FAB Europe LCA study demonstrates benefits of strengthening European supply chain for glass fibre fabrics

TECH-FAB Europe, the association for European technical textiles producers, has published a life cycle assessment (LCA) study on glass fibre fabrics. This publication, an industry first, clearly highlights the environmental benefits of building a strong European supply chain for these products. A robust European glass fibre supply chain is essential to enable European manufacturers to create sustainable composites solutions for numerous markets.

The new report, *Life cycle assessment of glass fibre fabrics,* was produced as part of a TECH-FAB Europe project to develop association-level LCAs of key technical textiles products. The cradle-to-gate analysis was performed by PwC. TECH-FAB Europe's members represent approximately 95% of the European production of glass fibre fabrics.

3 key findings:

1. From raw material extraction to the factory gate, producing 1 kg of glass fibre fabric in Europe generates, on average, greenhouse gas emissions of 2.21 kg of CO_2eq and a primary energy demand of 39 MJ.

2. The majority of the impact is driven by the production of glass fibre, which accounts for 89% of the carbon footprint of the final product.

3. European manufacturers of composite solutions can significantly reduce their environmental impacts by using glass fibre fabrics produced in Europe.

Rémi Bagard, glass fibre fabrics expert and member of the TECH-FAB Europe Sustainability Working Group: "From wind energy, construction, and automotive, to sports and leisure, and more, composite products based on glass fibre fabrics are enabling numerous industries to decarbonise in line with EU net-zero targets. This LCA further demonstrates the sustainability of Europe's glass fabric industry and reinforces the need to support its continued growth and competitiveness. Our customers can also feed this data into their own LCA calculations as they strive to design more sustainable composite products."

Raphaël Pleynet, Secretary General of TECH-FAB Europe: "TECH-FAB Europe is the voice of the technical textiles industry in Europe. We recognise that LCAs are essential to drive informed decision-making and improved environmental performance along the supply chain

and are proud to be able to share this new data with policymakers, customers and other stakeholders. Our members will also be able to use the averages calculated as a benchmark from which to identify potential areas for improvement."

The report, *Life cycle assessment of glass fibre fabrics*, is available on request. Please email communication@tech-fab-europe.eu.

About TECH-FAB Europe

TECH-FAB Europe is the association of European technical textile producers. Our products are high-performing engineered textiles that bring lightweight solutions, strength, and many other benefits to our everyday lives, with sustainability at heart, complying to the European Green Deal to create a climate-neutral economy by 2050. We represent a diversity of markets and companies of different sizes, with a solid network based on mutual respect.

Further information

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