

Winterthur, August 27, 2012

## Autoneum and Nittoku sign Memorandum of Understanding with Toyota Boshoku on cooperation in automotive interior business

**The three leading automotive suppliers agree to collaborate in developing interior systems for hybrid vehicles. They aim to leverage their competences in car interior, acoustics and thermal management, applying a full systems approach.**

Autoneum (headquartered in Winterthur, Switzerland), Nittoku (Nihon Tokushu Toryo Co.; Tokyo, Japan), and Toyota Boshoku Corporation (Kariya, Japan) signed a Memorandum of Understanding for strategic joint development of lightweight interior systems to provide best-in-class vehicle acoustics, particularly for hybrid cars that offer attractive growth potential.

The key benefit of this cooperation lies in the full systems approach to soundproofing technology, synergizing the specific expertise and collective innovation power of all three parties. Optimal leveraging of resources and of acoustic and thermal competences in materials technology will enable significant noise and vibration reduction for various product applications for hybrid vehicles. Interior systems including headlining and door trim, carpet and dash silencer, damping, engine encapsulation and underbody solutions will thus be optimized to serve the automotive industry worldwide.

The three independent companies are leading players in their fields. Toyota Boshoku is an interior systems supplier developing and manufacturing seats and interior trims. Autoneum and Nittoku have been strong partners for decades, providing Japanese car manufacturers globally with innovative lightweight solutions for noise reduction and thermal management.



From left to right: Martin Hirzel, CEO Autoneum, Dr. Shuhei Toyoda, President Toyota Boshoku, and Masahiro Nojima, President Nittoku

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**About Autoneum**

Autoneum, with registered offices in Winterthur, Switzerland, is the globally leading producer of vehicle acoustics and thermal management systems. The company develops and manufactures components, modules and complete systems for interior, trunk and engine bay as well as heat protection and aerodynamic underbody shields. Customers include leading automobile producers in the key markets of Europe, North America, South America and Asia. Autoneum is represented at 48 locations in over 20 countries and employs some 9'600 people worldwide, of whom about 6% in Switzerland. This Rieter Group spin-off company formed in 2011 is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (ticker symbol AUTN).

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