

**NOVEL SHAPING PROCESS FOR PMI FOAM MATERIALS AND/OR
COMPOSITE COMPONENTS PRODUCED THEREFROM**

Abstract

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The present invention relates to a novel method which is suitable, for example, for producing composite materials with cores made from hard foams. It is the advantage of the invention here that both the foam material and the plastic of the top layer can be selected freely. In particular, the present method can also be used to process top layers, the processing temperature of which differs clearly from those of the core material. Furthermore, the present invention relates to a method, by way of which integral foam structures can be compressed partially in a second embodiment. It is possible by way of a third embodiment to produce a hollow body with particularly high-quality joints from at least two workpieces of a foam by welding. This can take place here with or without top layers. Moreover, it is particularly satisfactorily possible by way of the present method to process foam materials by means of a vacuum moulding process.

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(Fig. 1)