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Cromatipic®; A Modern way of Metallization on plastics with inline technology for high productivity and high quality.Chinmay Trivedi¹, Ivan Kolev², Dave Doerwald², Roel Tietema², Jeroen Landsbergen²,
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Plastics are historically familiar in various applications due to its easily shaped, low weight and non-corrosion nature. Especially in automotive industry, plastics are metallized to provide light weight components, having a bold look with bright or satin finish. Automated lacquering and PVD based Metallization; on plastics can provide a high quality coating to satisfy various requirement standards. Metal plating has long been the only solution for decorative coatings on particular plastics, to ensure hardness and a bright color. This conventional method has its own limitation related to environmental restrictions and is mainly applicable to ABS or PC/ABS substrates. Several technological processes have been developed to make alternative techniques combining; lacquer and PVD coatings with and without top coat. In-line metallization is one of the proven processes which are getting matured. This process aims to fulfil the market requirement to have high productivity and reduced cost of ownership. In-line technology is in demand to reach high productivity. Fully automated In-line systems can provide high throughput and therefore high productivity. In combination with PVD coating technology is a market requirement to reach better yields. The author will explain about metallization by PVD integrated with lacquering in a production line. In an optimized set up, high productivity with low down time and less handling cost can be achieved.

In this talk various technological aspects of the process including lacquering and its influence on PVD process will be informed by the author. This will show the results; a high quality product fulfilling various industrial standards.

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