

AIE 2016: Lantal with 130th anniversary and new stand look

## Innovation flies high in Hamburg

At Aircraft Interiors Expo 2016 (Stand 6E70 in Hall B6) from April 5 to 7, Lantal is presenting a fresh format. The unique stand concept has adopted “Bionics” as its theme to embrace this forward-looking technology. The virtual reality headsets available to stand visitors open up trailblazing ways to showcase innovative cabin solutions. Apart from the globally deployed, proven, and ever more popular Pneumatic Comfort System PCS, Lantal is putting the focus on a suite of product debuts: newly developed carpets with outstanding properties, a beautifully luminous curtain, and – with the Conceptual Forecast 2016 – a glimpse into the future of aircraft cabin appointments.

### 130-year anniversary

This year, Lantal is celebrating its 130th anniversary. It all began in 1886 with linen fabrics for Emmental cheesemakers and was followed by 130 years of ongoing renewal and innovation. In 1954, Lantal sold the first seat covers to KLM, the Dutch national airline, securing an entry-level position in the aviation sector. Thanks to close collaboration with Boeing and Nasa, the company was able to accrue extensive know-how in the development of flame-retardant textiles. In 1956, Lantal began to service the railway and bus industries. This year marks the company's 60th anniversary in the ground transportation market. The newly defined Executive market was proactively opened up in 2014. In its marketing initiative for premium products such as hand-tufted carpets, Lantal relies on the synergies between the business jet and superyacht sectors.

### Digitization

Lantal not only melds tradition with innovation in product development but also embraces latest-generation technologies in marketing. To commemorate its 130th anniversary, the Swiss company launched its state-of-the-art responsive-design website ([www.lantal.com](http://www.lantal.com)) that allows visitors to quickly and easily navigate to the content they are interested in. Moreover, customers are provided with exclusive apps that allow them to independently configure their interiors with 3D realism. Lantal customer advisors work with virtual reality headsets, for instance to better illustrate the advantages of Lantal's Pneumatic Comfort System or to more vividly visualize the latest collections with virtual interior walkthroughs. At Lantal's new “Inspirations” event

on Wednesday evening, such a virtual reality headset will be interfaced with the unique "Birdly" simulator that makes it possible to experience one of mankind's oldest dreams: to fly like a bird.

### **Coherent all-in-one solutions**

Airlines looking for the utmost in comfort and well-being in their cabins are in good hands with the Swiss specialist. Lantal offers single-source convenience for products and services in seating with fit-and-fly seat covers, antimacassars, literature pockets, and footrest nets, floor-to-ceiling solutions for cabin walls, innovations for the floor with pre-cut carpets and ultra-fast installation techniques, as well as permanently pleated or plain sewn curtains as cabin dividers. The industry insiders who attend Aircraft Interiors Expo 2016 in Hamburg can get a hands-on impression of these innovations in early April this year.

### **PCS success story continues**

The Pneumatic Comfort System (PCS) has been in service for seven years, logging over 250 million maintenance-free pax hours in the Business and First Class sections of more than 200 aircraft. The PCS has convinced carriers in Europe (Swiss International Air Lines, Lufthansa, British Airways, Austrian Airlines, Edelweiss, SAS, Brussels Airlines, and British Midland International), in the Americas (Air Canada and jet-Blue Airways), in the Middle East (Etihad) and in the Far East (Air Astana). Nearly 10'000 seats in mid- and long-haul aircraft have been equipped with the amazingly comfortable PCS so far. Originally launched in Airbus jets, the PCS is now qualified for long-haul Boeing aircraft as well (B777s and B787s).

Lantal's air-filled cushion system stands out with weight savings, extreme reliability, maintenance-free service, and consistent performance across a long product lifetime. The firmness of the innovative cushions can be individually adjusted in-flight to suit the passenger's preferences in the sitting, relaxing, and lie-flat positions. Loyal passengers appreciate the exceptionally convincing comfort of the PCS.

### **Cutting edge carpet and seat cover developments**

Lantal is presenting its three new carpet types with remarkable properties: The first one is a weight-optimized wool/polyamide blend of extraordinary longevity. A wool carpet that tips the scales at 1200 g/m<sup>2</sup> offers stunning design options for short- and long-haul routes. It is compelling not only because of its low weight but also because of the self-adhesive tape or touch-fastener technique that expedites laying and re-

removal. The third new product is a 100% polyamide carpet, which is also weight-optimized and highly suitable for high short-haul passenger frequencies due to its ruggedness. All three carpets are also available cut to size and serged.

### **Trends in the Conceptual Forecast 2016**

Lantal's design team knows the megatrends: The key insights gained in trendscouting were distilled into the latest edition of the Lantal Trendletter. It reveals three vectors that will inspire the interiors of three aircraft cabin classes. These observations resulted in the Conceptual Forecast 2016 for seat cover fabrics, leathers, carpets, and curtains. The collection encompasses designs with appealing color gradations, seductive structures, flash effects, contrasting textures, and crisp contours, offering guidance and expanding horizons.

### ***Lantal – Transportation Fashion***

*Lantal is a leader in the design, production, and distribution of textiles, parts, and services for aircraft, train, bus, and executive cabin interiors. The company offers forward-looking counsel with the objective of achieving the ultimate in passenger well-being.*

### **Photos**

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