

The background of the entire image is a dark, textured field of blue and white particles, resembling a starry night sky or a microscopic view of a material. In the center, a large, bold, white sans-serif font spells out "ERT GROUP". A black silhouette of a person stands in front of the word "GROUP", positioned between the "O" and "U", looking towards the right. The person's silhouette is solid black, contrasting with the bright blue and white particles behind them.

ERT GROUP

Textile International Forum And Exhibition 2026

The background of the slide features a large, bright world map. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of two people are visible, their heads and shoulders positioned as if they are looking at the map. The overall lighting is warm, with the map's colors appearing slightly desaturated and golden.

ERT GROUP

The Future of Automotive Technical Textiles

What Buyers Want and
How Manufacturers Can Compete.

Luís Soares
Manufacturing Director

Engineering. Industrialization. Innovation.

Luís Soares
Manufacturing Director

10+ years in automotive
engineering

Automation, digitalisation
and advanced process
development

Transforming new
technologies into
production-ready
solutions



ERT GROUP

From Technical Textiles To Automotive Interiors

Today, ERT combines research, engineering and a fully integrated production chain - turning material innovation into scalable manufacturing.

Founded in
Portugal in the
early 1990s.

From Portugal to the world, ERT Group combines industrial scale, local proximity and innovation to shape what comes next.

5

Countries with manufacturing operations.

3

International sales offices.

1

R&D Center in Portugal.



One integrated industrial chain.
Greater control, speed and flexibility.

Lamination



Cutting



Sewing



Foaming



Covering



FROM RAW MATERIAL TO FINISHED COMPONENT

ERT GROUP

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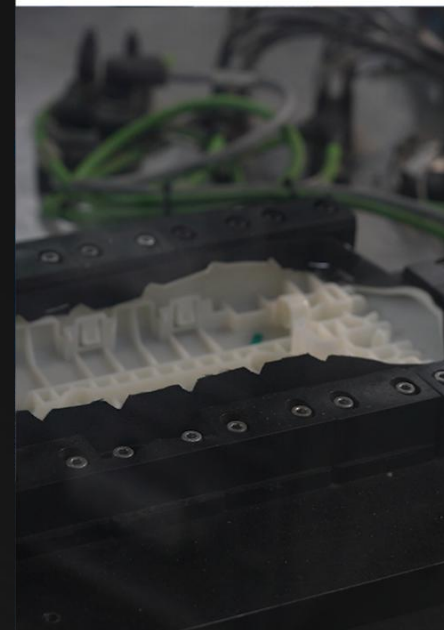
Sewing



Foaming



Covering





ERT GROUP

One Industrial Network.
Built to Move Forward.

**Engineering
What Comes
Next.**



**Building What
Comes Next**

**How Manufacturers
Can Compete**

**What Buyers
Want**

**A Market In
Transition**

ERT GROUP

A MARKET BEING REWRITTEN

New platforms.
New regulations.
New expectations.

□ THE MARKET IS GROWING. THE REQUIREMENTS ARE CHANGING FASTER.

~\$34B

Automotive textiles
market, 2026

~5%

Typical CAGR

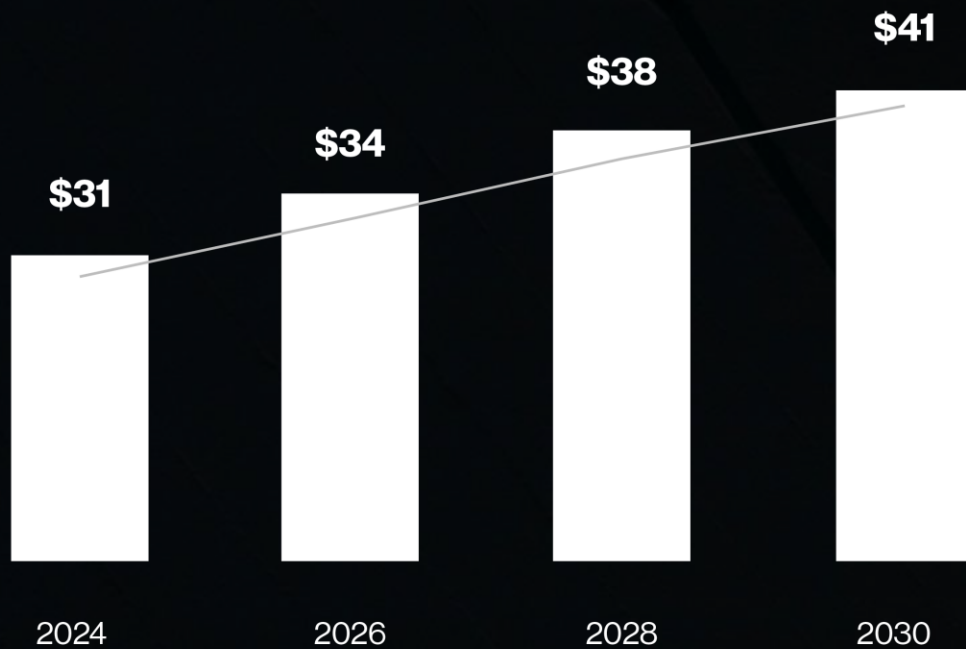
~\$250B

Global technical
textiles market

Electrification, personalisation
and regulation are redefining
every surface inside the vehicle.

□ GROWTH IS ONLY PART OF THE STORY

The market is expanding -
but the real transformation
lies in what materials will
need to deliver.



A woman is shown from the waist down, wearing a long, flowing white dress that billows out around her. She is standing against a dark, moody background. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the fabric and the silhouette of the dress.

ERT GROUP

WHAT BUYERS WANT

Circular. Lighter.
Smarter. Faster.

□ CIRCULARITY IS BECOMING A CONDITION OF ENTRY

2026

Regulation in
force

2032

15% recycled
plastic content

2036

25% recycled
plastic content

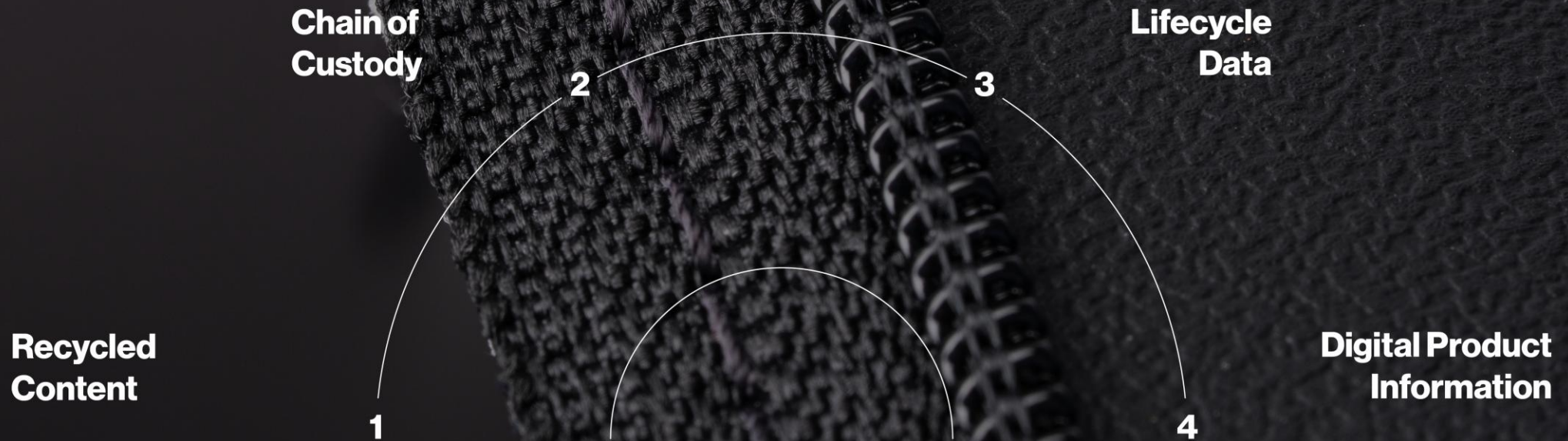
The EU's new End-of-Life Vehicles framework turns recycled content, traceability and material documentation into product requirements.



❑ PERFORMANCE WILL NO LONGER BE ENOUGH

The material will need to perform.
The data will need to prove it.

Buyers will expect every sustainability claim to be traceable, measurable and audit-ready.



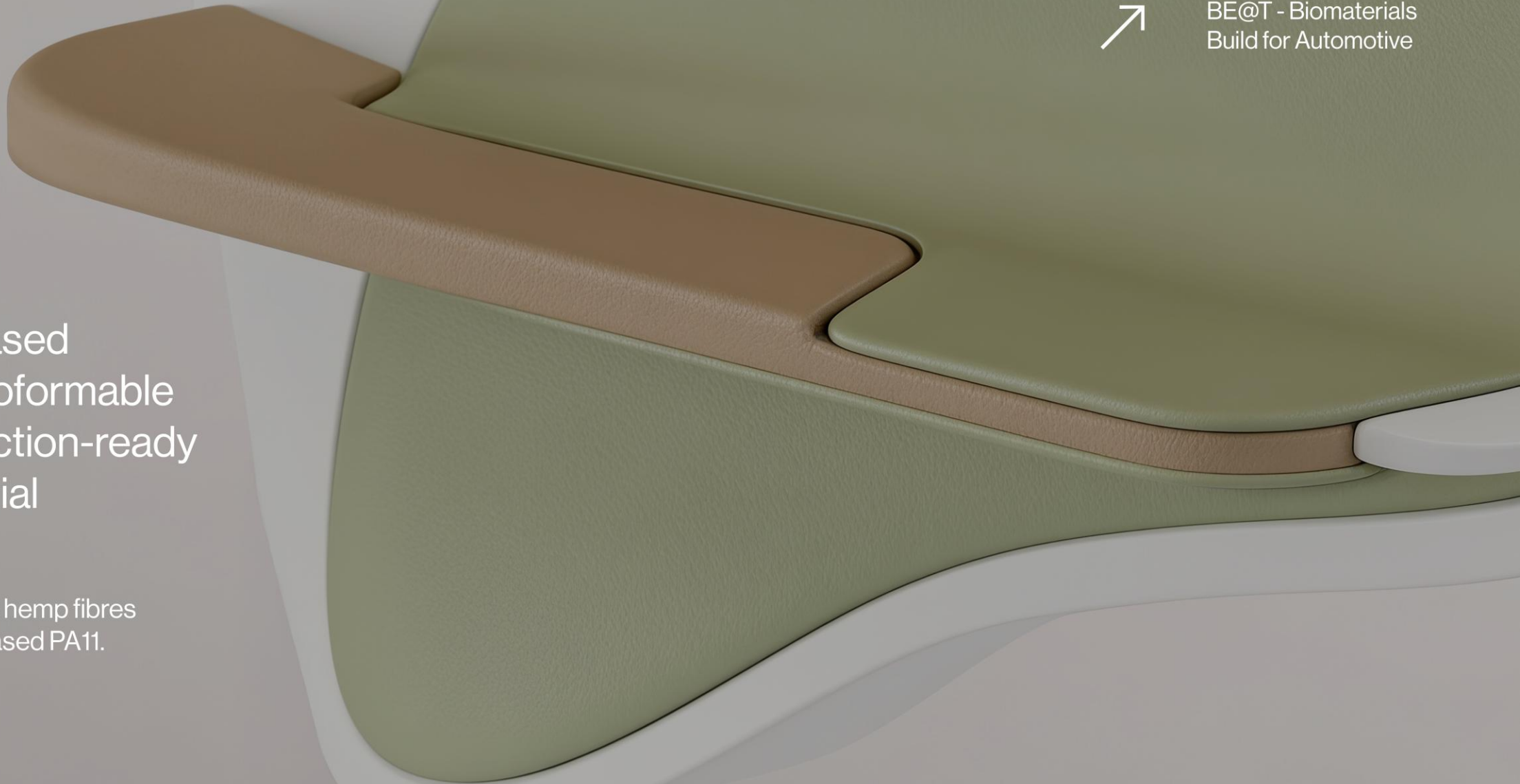
□ FROM BIOMATERIAL TO AUTOMOTIVE COMPONENT



BE@T - Biomaterials
Build for Automotive

Bio-based
thermoformable
production-ready
potential

Combines hemp fibres
and bio-based PA11.



□ ONE MATERIAL JOURNEY.THREE TRANSFORMATION STEPS.



BE@T - Biomaterials
Build for Automotive

Bioprepreg

Hemp and PA11
fibres form a
thermoformable textile
structure.



Heat + Pressure

Multiple layers are
shaped directly into
the target geometry.



Finished Component

A dimensionally
accurate part with
automotive application
potential.

TURNING TEXTILE WASTEBACK INTO MATERIAL VALUE



Molded interior panel demonstrator,
sewn with recycled PES thread



Extended - Closing the
Loop on Textile Waste

PVC recovered
from synthetic
leather.

Polyol recovered
from PU foam.

New yarn
created from
recycled PES
waste.

UP
TO 80%

Targeted Textile
Waste Reduction

□ EVERY GRAM HAS A CONSEQUENCE

The next generation of interiors must do more, with less material.

In electric vehicles, material weight affects more than logistics. It affects range, efficiency and product performance.

□ FOUR LEVERS. ONE LIGHTER INTERIOR.

01

Consolidate
Layers

02

Replace Fossil-
Based Materials

03

Apply Only What
Is Needed

04

Design For Weight
From Day One

□ THE CABIN IS NO LONGER JUST AN INTERIOR

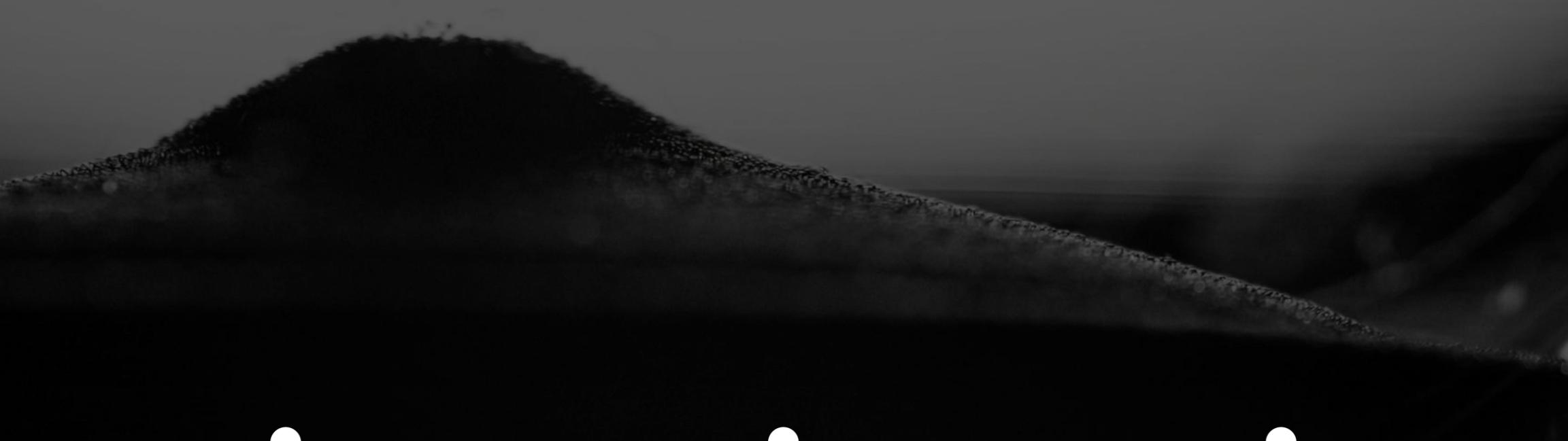
It is becoming a responsive environment - sensing, adapting and communicating through its surfaces.

Thermal
Comfort

Embedded
Intelligence

Acoustic +
Tactile Identity

❑ **BUYERS WANT INNOVATION ON THEIR TIMELINE. NOT IN OURS.**



Shorter
Platforms.

Faster
Validation.

Earlier Supplier
Involvement.

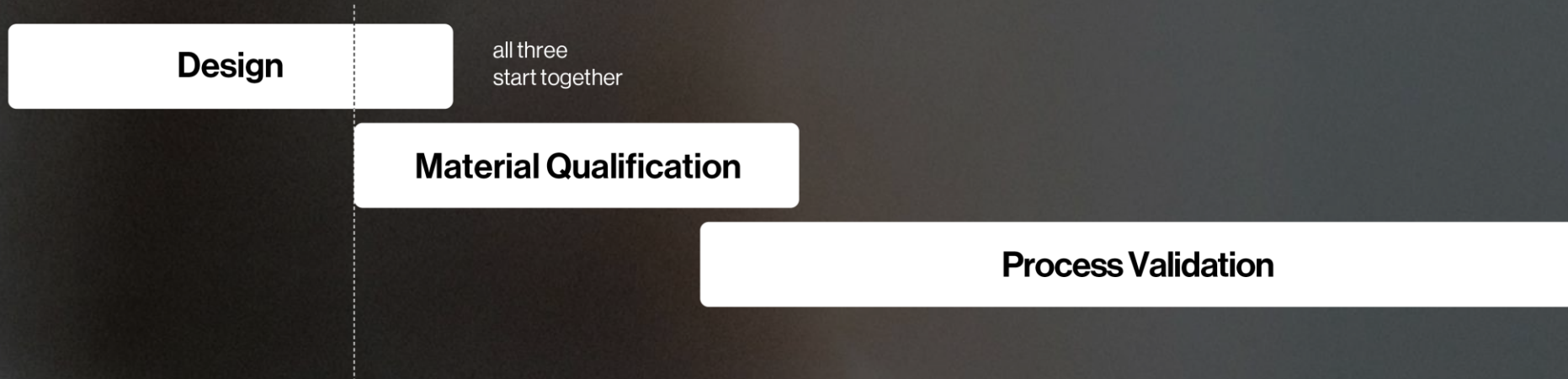
❑ PARALLEL ENGINEERING DOES NOT REMOVE STEPS

It removes the waiting
between them.

Legacy — Sequential

Design — Material Qualification — Process Validation — Launch

Now — Parallel





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HOW MANUFACTURERS CAN COMPETE

Innovation Must Work At Scale

Better materials are only
valuable when industry
can produce them.

❑ INNOVATION STILL HAS TO EARN ITS PRICE

Buyers demand circularity,
speed and performance.
But sourcing decisions still
come back to cost.

Not Lowest
Unit Price



Lowest Total
Cost

Scrap. Quality.
Warranty. Validation.
Compliance.

❑ UNCERTAINTY IS NO LONGER A TEMPORARY CONDITION

Trade +
Tariffs

EV Transition

Energy + Raw
Materials

The advantage belongs
to industrial systems
designed to adapt.

□ WHERE INNOVATION MEETS THE FACTORY FLOOR

ERT's Advanced Engineering Department connects customer needs, emerging technologies and production reality.

Test

Industrialise

Scale

Innovation is not a parallel activity. It is part of the operating system.

□ FROM PAPER RECORDS TO REAL-TIME QUALITY DATA

TEXP@CT created an integrated quality-management system connecting machine setup, process checks and production data through one centralised platform.

TEXP@CT - Digitalizing
Quality Control

Less
Paper

Greater
Traceability

Faster
Decisions

More
Consistent
Quality

□ DIGITALISATION CHANGES MORE THAN THE INTERFACE

It changes how quality
is recorded, understood
and improved.

Before

Paper
Fragmented
Records
Delayed Analysis

Now

Real-time Data
Centralised
Information
Actionable Insight



□ INNOVATION IS A COLLECTIVE CAPABILITY

Universities

University of Aveiro
University of Beira Interior
Técnico Lisboa
FEUP

Technology & Research Centres

CENTI
CITEVE
CTCP
STAR Institute
Fraunhofer
VTT

Industry Clusters & Bodies

MOBINOV
COTEC
SANJOTEC

ERT works with universities, technology centres and industry partners to accelerate research, testing and industrial application.

□ WHAT DOES ALL THIS ACTUALLY DELIVER?

The result: a more agile, efficient and future-ready manufacturing operation.

Faster
Response

Credible
Data

Better Cost
Control

Greater
Resilience



ERT GROUP

BUILDING WHAT COMES NEXT

From market pressure to
industrial opportunity.



FIVE MOVES THAT CANNOT WAIT

Turning today's pressures
into tomorrow's competitive
advantage requires action now.

01

Digitalise

02

Develop

03

Optimise

04

Adapt

05

Collaborate



ERT R&D ROADMAP 2026–2028

Materials

Residue valorisation
Advanced composites
Bio-based adhesives

Functional Surfaces

Active and interactive surfaces
Flexible electronics
Embedded sensors

Intelligent Production

Automation and robotics
Data-driven process control
Artificial intelligence

Materials that perform.
Surfaces that respond.
Processes that learn.



AUTOMOTIVE TEXTILE

The Future
Will be decided by
four capabilities

Circularity.
Lightweighting.
Intelligence.
Speed.

Digitalisation and
automation are what
turn these demands into
scalable industrial reality.

“

**ERT does not wait for the
future. ERT creates it.**

João Brandão, Chairman



The Future Will Not Be Defined By Materials Alone.

It will be defined by what we enable them to do.

Luís Soares
Manufacturing Director