

MANSFIELD NEWS-MIRROR

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Product made by local firm in vehicles

The major components of the instrument panel in the Chevrolet Colorado and GMC Canyon compact pickup trucks are molded of Sequel 2380 thermoplastic polyolefin, a new material has been developed by Solvay Engineered Polymers.

This all-thermoplastic polyolefin panel in the Colorado/Canyon is the first of its kind for General Motors in North America. GM has similar applications in production in Europe.

Traditionally, GM instrument panels have been built using painted PC/ABS parts or vinyl skin-and-

foam construction. The unpainted thermoplastic polyolefin panel is a lower-cost alternative to both of these techniques, since it is molded with a grained Class A finish, eliminating the cost of secondary finishing operations.

Solvay Engineered Polymers Inc. has its headquarters in Mansfield, with sales and marketing operations and an Automotive Applications Development Center in Auburn Hills, Mich. Its manufacturing, distribution, and technology facilities are in Mansfield and Grand Prairie.
