

# 1997 - 2004 Corvette: Press Release: Not a Lightweight at All: New Composite from GM Is Stiff Enough for Structure, Resistant to Heat

## Description:

This press release, released from GM on July 24, 1998 takes an in-depth look at the Corvette's sheet molded composite body structure.

## Excerpt:

*"The automotive consumer may not even be aware of GM's latest product innovation. But a new lightweight composite material called "SMC 3374" is revolutionizing the structure of the car. It is a plastic material stiff enough to be a structural part, and tough enough to withstand the heat of an engine compartment. The latest in a long line of materials known generically as "sheet molded composite", or "SMC", this new product from the Materials and Processes Laboratory at the General Motors Technical Center reduces the weight and number of parts in a car. The result: better mileage, increased durability, and in some cases, added features for the consumer."*

**Link:** [Not a Lightweight at All: New Composite from GM Is Stiff Enough for Structure, Resistant to Heat](https://www.corvetteactioncenter.com/tech/knowledgebase/article.php?id=454)

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