Mycelium, hemp and flax: the new materials of the car interior

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Milan Design Week 2025 made it clear that the next interior battle is not about screens but about **materials**. Kia presented the Concept EV2 there with a dashboard and door panels in Fybron, a cellulose compound made from wood, paper and recycled textiles; mycelium-infused polyurethane surfaces (with Biomyc) and hemp parts; and seat shells in AmpliTex, Bcomp's fully recyclable flax-fibre composite.

Italdesign went further with the **Quintessenza**: water-based paint cutting VOCs by 80%, flax fabric on wheel arches and bumpers (85% lower footprint than carbon), natural-fibre polypropylene in seat shells (up to 70% less plastic), a polyurethane "skin" with marble powder on dashboard and doors, and flooring with 20% recycled rubber from athletic shoes.

None of these materials replaces technical plastic: they complement it. The industrial challenge is combining them with overmoulding, paint and mould texturing while keeping tolerances, scratch resistance and **colour repeatability** in large series.

Sources: Automotive World · Design News