Smart surfaces: a touch console decorated with recycled textile and hidden light

21/08/2025

Electrification pushes the interior towards touch controls, and the decoration industry answers with "smart surfaces" that look like a noble material and hide the electronics. Kurz, one of the majors in plastic decoration, showed it with the **Smart Display Center Console**, developed with Farplas and exhibited at IAA Mobility 2025.

The console integrates fully invisible capacitive multitouch sensors by PolyIC, and a touchpad with an **RGB matrix that stays hidden until it lights up** and responds to the user's hand. The covering textile is rPET obtained through the Recosys recycling system, traceable "from source to surface" and positioned as a leather replacement.

It is an early-stage demonstrator (TRL 2–3), under validation with Topp Textil and Technofibres, but it sums up where the decorated interior part is heading: textile or film over plastic, light and touch integrated in the same component, and documented recycled content to comply with the new circularity regulation.

Source: Automotive World