

Press release

marketing communication

TenCate Geosynthetics joint winner of Water Innovation Award 2013

The entry 'Vertical sand-tight geotextile' submitted by the Rivierenland Water Board in the Netherlands, has won the Water Innovation Award for 2013 in the category Dry Feet. In the words of the chair of the jury, Ms Annemieke Nijhof of Tauw Group B.V., the geotextile produced by TenCate Geosynthetics is 'the most innovative idea that can be used within the duties and responsibilities of Dutch water boards'. The award ceremony took place on the evening of Tuesday, 10 December.

Piping is a major failure mechanism in dykes, in which water seeps through an embankment, dyke or other engineering structure as a result of a huge difference in the level of the water on either side. The flow of water under the dyke may be so great that sand boils that carry along sand particles occur on the polder side of the dyke. Because sand is carried along with the flow, 'pipes' – tubular openings – are created under the dyke that may cause it to burst. Vertical sand-tight geotextile is an innovative preventive measure used to avert piping. Together with Deltares, the Department of Waterways & Public Works in the Netherlands, TenCate Geosynthetics and others, the Rivierenland Water Board has developed and tested this vertical sand-tight geotextile.

Vertical sand-tight geotextile

The protective principle of the vertical sand-tight geotextile is based on the fact that the geotextile filter allows water, but not sand, to pass through. A pipe which develops on the polder side is stopped by the geotextile, thus ensuring that the sand remains trapped under the dyke and that piping cannot occur. This solid solution is not dependent on a minimum requirement for seepage length. The innovative technique was derived from TenCate Geotube® technology.

Monitoring using sensor technology

Moreover, by combining this geotextile preventive measure with TenCate GeoDetect® technology, the functionality of the filter is combined with sensors, which monitor the stability of the dyke. Both vertical sand-tight geotextile and TenCate GeoDetect® are solutions which, due to the small amount of space they occupy, will increase both the feasibility of dyke improvement and cost effectiveness. In principle geotextile solutions for water management have a low carbon footprint. They are sustainable and durable alternatives to traditional solutions used in dyke improvement and land reclamation.

Ten Cate Nederland bv

Stationsstraat 11
7607 GX Almelo
P.O. Box 58
7600 GD Almelo
The Netherlands

Tel +31 546 544 911
Fax +31 546 814 145
www.tencate.com
media@tencate.com

CoC no. 06036179
Royal Bank of Scotland 465443753
VAT no. NL 004645054B28

TenCate Geosynthetics EMEA
Almelo, the Netherlands, Thursday, 12 December 2013

For further information:

Digital photos are available on request on media@tencate.com

TenCate Geosynthetics

Gerrit Dortland, Business unit manager, Water & Environment EMEA
Telephone : + 31 548 544 847
E-mail : g.dortland@tencate.com
Internet : www.tencategeosynthetics.com

TenCate corporate

Jaap de Carpentier Wolf, Head of corporate communication
Telephone : + 31 546 544 911
Mobile : + 31 623 317 352
E-mail : media@tencate.com
Internet : www.tencate.com

TenCate Geosynthetics develops and produces synthetic fabrics, non-wovens, wovens and geogrids, and creates design solutions and systems for infrastructure and civil technology. TenCate Geosynthetics has factories in Europe, North America and Asia.

Royal Ten Cate (TenCate) is a multinational company that combines textile technology with chemical processes and material technology in the development and production of functional materials with distinctive characteristics. TenCate products are sold throughout the world. Systems and materials from TenCate come under four areas of application: safety and protection; space and aerospace; infrastructure and the environment; sport and recreation. TenCate occupies leading positions in protective fabrics, composites for space and aerospace, antiballistics, geosynthetics and synthetic turf. TenCate is listed on NYSE Euronext (AMX).