

Press information

Marketing

TenCate Protective Fabrics introduces the new generation of TenCate Tecasafe® XL fabrics at the A + A 2011

TenCate Protective Fabrics introduces the new generation of TenCate Tecasafe® XL fabrics, at the A + A 2011 trade show in Germany. This new generation of inherent flame retardant fabrics represents an enormous advance in multi-risk protection. But also in comfort and optimum colour fastness. What is more, TenCate now works with biological and therefore eco-friendly fibres.

Around the world there are many jobs that expose people to great risk. TenCate Protective Fabrics protects these professionals with a broad range of high-quality and technologically advanced fabrics.

The new generation of TenCate Tecasafe® - XL is the result of close cooperation with end users, laundry services, clothing manufacturers and suppliers of fibres and chemicals, among others. Thanks to modern technologies and a modification in the fibre composition, the new range has four ultra-strong characteristics:

Multi-risk protection

The starting point for TenCate Protective Fabrics is always the end user. The new XL fabrics offer protection against all kinds of risks. After all, employees are at risk of exposure to flames, electric arcs, static electricity or splashes of molten metal or chemicals. These protective fabrics are also available in high-visibility yellow, so that anyone wearing them can be easily spotted either in daytime or under poorer lighting conditions in an industrial environment.

Biological and durable

The cotton fibres in the XL fabrics have been replaced by special bio-cellulose fibres, for maximum durability. This makes the fabrics strong and wear resistant. Thanks to this fibre, the TenCate Tecasafe® XL 9300 and XL 9240 fabrics keep their superior colour fastness even after frequent washing. The outstanding colour fastness means there is virtually no chance of whitening of the seams and cuffs during intensive laundering.

Ultimate comfort

The special bio-cellulose fibres immediately absorb any perspiration into the fabric. Combined with superb breathability this results in excellent moisture regulating characteristics. After all, working clothes must not only protect but also offer flexibility and maximum wearer comfort.

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Environmentally friendly technology

The TenCate Tecasafe® - XL collection has been developed using the principles of environmentally friendly fibre technology. The new bio-cellulose fibre is made from wood grown in sustainably managed forests (not to be confused with viscose). All the non-toxic chemicals that are required to dissolve the wood pulp are fully reused, except for 0.1%. Good for the environment and therefore also for people.

TenCate Tecasafe® Plus includes flash-over protection

The new XL collection includes the TenCate Tecasafe® Plus - XL 9700 protective fabric. Thanks to the unique composition and structure of its fibres, this textile offers an exceptionally high level of protection against the dangers of a flash-over. Firemen know how dangerous a flash-over is, but so do professionals in the chemical, petrochemical and oil industries. An unexpected and explosive flash-over occurs when gases and inflammable substances suddenly ignite. Employees can then be exposed to excessive flame development and high temperatures.

When compared with other flame retardant solutions, TenCate Tecasafe® Plus offers excellent protection against burns. It is also very resistant to heat shrinkage, and therefore offers better protection. Most other clothing tends to shrink when exposed to the heat of flames, causing it to tighten on the skin, therefore losing its insulating properties and increasing the risk of burns.

TenCate Tecasafe® Plus is already a tried and tested technology in North America, where millions of metres are already sold each year. The R&D team of TenCate Protective Fabrics in Nijverdal (the Netherlands) has done some extra development work, so that it now also meets European requirements and customer needs.

**Ten Cate Protective Fabrics
Nijverdal, Tuesday 18 October 2011**

Note to editors:

TenCate Protective Fabrics can be found at the A + A 2011 in Düsseldorf from Tuesday 18 October to Friday 21 October 2011 in **hall 3, stand F73**.

Background information on the A + A 2011 and TenCate Protective Fabrics:
www.tencateprotectivefabrics.com

A photo of the new generation of **TenCate Tecasafe® - XL fabrics** is available via:
protectivefabrics@tencate.com

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TenCate Protective Fabrics develops and produces protective and safety clothing for the industrial sector, services sector, fire services and armed services. TenCate Protective Fabrics has production locations in Europa, Asia and North America.

Koninklijke Ten Cate nv (TenCate) is a multinational company which combines textile technology, chemical processes and material technology in the development and production of functional materials with distinctive properties. TenCate products are sold worldwide.

TenCate systems and materials can be divided into four areas of application. Safety and protection; aerospace; infrastructure and environment; sport and recreation. TenCate holds leading positions in protective fabrics, composites for aerospace, anti-ballistics, geo-synthetics and artificial grass. TenCate is listed on NYSE Euronext (AMX).