



# Press release

investor relations

## **Reaction of Royal Ten Cate regarding news article about the use of tire infill material in synthetic turf pitches.**

**On Sunday October 30 the Dutch newspaper De Telegraaf published an article regarding negative environmental aspects of the use of rubber tire material for infill purposes, without informing Ten Cate prior to the publication. Although Ten Cate was not mentioned in the article, the content could be explained negatively for one of Ten Cate's core activities: synthetic grass.**

**Royal TenCate does not produce rubber infill for sport pitches which is made from car tires or any other material witch could have negative effects on the environment or could be harmful to the human body. The same applies for the other components produced by Ten Cate: grass yarns and outdoor backing.**

Royal Ten Cate is through its subsidiary Ten Cate Thiolon market leader in synthetic grass and produces grass yarns (Thiolon Grass®), outdoor backing (Thiobac Pro®) and infill material (Thiolon Basic®, Thiolon Infill Pro®). The raw materials used in the Ten Cate infill material are also used in the food sector (for instance packaging) and this material is safe in case of direct contact with the human body.

Ten Cate is a technology leader in the industry and all its components are thoroughly tested. Ten Cate's goal is to provide the market with a play ground comprising of high quality components, which in combination provide the optimal end result in terms of durability and safety. In order to accomplish these results we work closely together with universities and test institutes, for example the Sport & Leisure institute of the University of Twente.

Also the aspect of flame retardency is of importance for synthetic turf pitches. Thiolon Grass in combination with Thiolon Infill gets the highest safety norm in this respect (Class 1; DIN 51 960).

Although the article does not refer to Royal Ten Cate's activities, we regret that the article might have caused an unnecessary negative image of synthetic turf in general.

### **Royal Ten Cate**

Almelo, October 31, 2005

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*For further information:*

F.R. Spaan

Head of Investor Relations/Corporate Affairs

0546 544338

[f.spaan@tencate.com](mailto:f.spaan@tencate.com)

[www.tencate.nl](http://www.tencate.nl)