

## Press release

Investor relations &  
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### TenCate brings advanced continuous open-width bleaching machine on stream

TenCate Advanced Textiles in Nijverdal has brought on stream an advanced, process-controlled, continuous open-width bleaching machine (CBB). The use of a fully integrated operating system makes this machine unique in the textile sector. The new CBB also carries out three separate machining operations in a single process run, thus achieving a higher processing speed and greater efficiency in operation and logistics. Furthermore, the materials are of a higher quality and the machine makes more efficient use of energy, chemicals and water.

Apart from the fact that this machine is of importance for reducing production costs and environmental costs and use of water and energy, its start-up also forms the first major step in the optimization of the process industry of textile finishing. Microprocessors enable the machine to measure and adjust all the variables itself in accordance with the relevant recipe. The CBB can, when required, vary the amount of water and chemicals, the speed and pressure. The continuous open-width bleaching machine will carry out the process-controlled pre-treatment of fabrics in an integrated process of singing, scouring and bleaching.

#### Joint design

The machine was jointly designed with the Swiss supplier Benninger, allowing TenCate's specific wishes and new insights to be realized. This fruitful collaboration has made it possible to build a machine that in this form is one of the most modern and integrated pre-treatment lines in the world. Thanks to a process analysis by the University of Twente, TenCate is ready for the bleaching technology of the future.

The pre-treatment line measures over 80 metres in length and is spread over two levels.

#### Sustainable production technology

The machine works with three heat exchangers to achieve energy consumption that is as effective as possible. In combination with a new water purification plant this results in an expected annual saving of approximately 7% on gas.

In the second half of the year the current water purification plant will be extended with a purification plant with a larger capacity. This results in a further reduction of waste. The purification plant enables the exploitation of bio gas.

The CBB works with 25 automatic dosing points for chemicals, which make accurate process-controlled operation of the machine possible. The machine can be meticulously monitored and controlled thanks to an automated process control system.

**Investment**

Investment in this machine amounts to approximately € 6 million, which includes the alterations to buildings and the laying of the foundations and the platform, which weighs some 90 tons.

Almelo, 7 July 2006

**Royal Ten Cate**

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