

Press release

corporate communication

TenCate Geosynthetics launches TenCate GeoDetect® in North America

Beginning in 2010 TenCate Geosynthetics will be concentrating on the market launch and sales of TenCate GeoDetect® in North America. This monitoring system, based on geotextiles equipped with optical fibers, has already been used in Europe for a few years. The launch in North America will enable the company's global marketing efforts in the field of geotechnology to be coordinated and the continued development of the system to be intensified.

TenCate GeoDetect® is the world's first intelligent geotextile. This is a system that provides early warning of deformations in soil structures. TenCate GeoDetect® consists of a geotextile that incorporates optical glass fibres, as well as special instrumentation equipment and software. The slightest settlements and changes in temperature and strain in for example embankments and dykes can thus be registered at an early stage. This makes it possible to take any necessary measures and to avoid breaches. The system is built into dyke bodies during the construction of seawalls, roads and railways and the building of retaining walls, tunnels, underground structures and pipelines.

Wilson Harvie, director of corporate business development at TenCate Geosynthetics North America, relating to TenCate GeoDetect® said: 'By combining proven optical fiber technology with the characteristics of our geotextiles, TenCate Geosynthetics offers the most accurate, customizable and profitable monitoring system that is currently available. This underscores TenCate Geosynthetics aspiration to offer global system solutions to complex problems in the field of geotechnology.'

In Europe the required experience has already been gained with TenCate GeoDetect® in pilot projects, including one in France for the construction of the embankment for the rails of SNCF's (French Railways) high-speed line. In The Netherlands this early warning system was used in the 'IJkdijk' project, in which new inspection and monitoring technology for dams and seawalls was tested.

**TenCate Geosynthetics North America
Almelo, Monday 4 January 2010**

For further information:

Digital visual material is available upon request via: media@tencate.com

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TenCate Geosynthetics develops and produces synthetic fabrics, non-wovens and grids, and develops solutions and systems for infrastructure and civil engineering. TenCate Geosynthetics has production operations in Europe, North America and Asia.

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

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 safety fabrics, composites for space and aerospace, antiballistics, geosynthetics and synthetic grass. TenCate is listed on NYSE Euronext (AMX).