

Press Release

November 25, 2008

Client Contact:

Jennifer Ellis, Marketing Coordinator

706-693-1728

j.ellis@tencate.com

**TENCATE™ GEOTEXTILES PROVIDE REINFORCEMENT
FOR NEW ST. ANTHONY FALLS BRIDGE IN MINNEAPOLIS**

PENDERGRASS, GA. – TenCate™ Geosynthetics North America utilized **Mirafi® HP-Series woven polypropylene geotextiles** to reinforce the new St. Anthony Falls Bridge which was constructed following the collapse of the I-35W Mississippi River Bridge in Minneapolis.

The I-35W Bridge was an eight-lane steel truss arch bridge that carried 140,000 vehicles per day across the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, MN. The bridge catastrophically collapsed during evening rush hour on August 1, 2007, killing 13 people and injuring approximately 100 more.

On September 18, 2008, engineers completed the new St. Anthony Falls Bridge. The 10-lane bridge has a 100-year life span and measures 189 feet wide. To expedite the design-build process, engineers used TenCate™ high-strength geotextiles in the project, which was completed in 339 days.

In order to allow simultaneous construction of a retaining wall and the bridge, a temporary 10-12 foot fabric-wrapped wall was installed at four locations adjacent to the bridge abutment. Engineers chose **Mirafi® HP570** to provide the necessary reinforcement for the temporary retained structure and its durable face. This material is composed of high-tenacity polypropylene yarns, which are woven into a stable network making the product inert to biological degradation and resistant to naturally encountered chemicals, alkalis and acids.

TenCate™ Geosynthetics North America develops and produces materials that increase performance, reduce costs and enable people to achieve what was once unachievable. TenCate™ Geosynthetic products are used in a vast array of Civil Engineering projects worldwide. As the global leader in geosynthetics, TenCate™ develops products that contribute to the stability of large-scale construction projects such as dams, dikes and roads. For more information, visit www.tencate.com.

###