

Press release

investor relations

TenCate Tecasafe® Plus flame-resistant products poised for global expansion

TenCate Protective Fabrics Americas, the market leader in inherently flame-resistant (FR) fabrics and knits for protective apparel, intensifies its strategic efforts to take the TenCate Tecasafe® Plus product portfolio to a world-wide marketplace. The global demand for TenCate Tecasafe® Plus is increasing because end-users look for the most economic protection in combination with outstanding performance, comfort and quality of FR fabrics. TenCate Tecasafe® Plus has become the fabric of choice on many shores this year.

The TenCate Tecasafe® Plus product portfolio has been successful in reaching various markets and continues to break new ground as it achieves new adoptions in programs, also in new geographical markets. TenCate Tecasafe® Plus currently is in terms of sales the second largest product of TenCate Protective Fabrics, after the FR fabric of choice for end-users within the US military forces, TenCate Defender™ M.

Emerging markets for FR fabrics

Emerging markets are in general receptive for innovations. As a consequence TenCate Tecasafe® Plus has been well received in various new markets (South America, Asia and Australia). To answer the need for superior FR fabrics in Southeast Asia, TenCate Protective Fabrics has built inventories there to ensure that the product will be readily available. TenCate has also added personnel in Asia to ensure a high level of personal customer attention.

Australia also added to the rapid growth of TenCate Tecasafe® Plus as the product here continues to advance to prominence in the FR industry. Increased production capacity and supply chain partnerships have made TenCate Tecasafe® Plus the most viable and innovative FR solution for the global market.

Increased brand awareness

With millions of yards already sold this year, TenCate Tecasafe® Plus has seen increasing market share especially in South America where the TenCate Tecasafe® Plus portfolio has proven very popular by offering an alternative to more traditional FR fabrics, and in a wide range of colors and weights. TenCate Tecasafe® Plus 580, a 5.8 ounce shirting fabric, continues to be successful because of increased comfort and breathability while fulfilling the requirements of electric arc and flash fire standards. Where multi-risk protection, quality and comfort are needed, TenCate Protective Fabrics innovates to meet the customer needs.

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Under the current market environment end-users especially look for the most economic solution. The combination of materials in TenCate Tecasafe Plus® fabrics result in both a multi-risk / high performance approach at a much favourable price compared to more traditional alternatives. Besides in the defense market the TenCate brand is now also well recognized in industrial and institutional markets.

Broad appeal and better options

In an ongoing effort to engineer protective products with high performance and ease of wear, TenCate is introducing TenCate Tecasafe® Plus knits. The knit fabric will be offered in Jersey knits and Piqué knits to give FR fabrics even greater comfort and a more casual look and feel. Serving as base-layer and outer-layer shirting fabric, TenCate Tecasafe® Plus knits will provide a system of fabrics that can be used in conjunction to provide maximum arc flash protection. These knit fabrics also provide protection against flash fire hazards and provide a more comfortable choice for professionals in uniform. TenCate Tecasafe® Plus knits are on demand designed and differ from competing FR knits in that they can stand up to repeated industrial laundering.

Royal Ten Cate
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TenCate Protective Fabrics is a world leader in the design, development, production and commercialization of protective and safety fabrics for industry, services, firefighting and defense. TenCate Protective Fabrics has establishments in North America, Europe, South America and Asia.

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

Systems and materials from TenCate come under four areas of application: safety & protection, space & aerospace, infrastructure & the environment, and sport & recreation. TenCate occupies leading positions in protective fabrics, composites for space and aerospace, antiballistics, geosynthetics and synthetic turf. TenCate is listed on the NYSE Euronext (AMX).