

Press release

corporate communication

TenCate Grass expands worldwide texturizing production capacity

TenCate Grass has significantly expanded its texturizing capacity in the United States and in Europe. The start-up of the state-of-the-art equipment will enable TenCate Grass to meet the high demand for texturized yarns for sports and landscaping turf.

The texturizing process creates natural curled fibers, which are mainly used in sport pitches with an extremely flat and smooth surface (field hockey, golf etc.) and as 'root zone' for some landscaping products. For landscaping applications it creates a natural appearance.

Guido Vliegen, global group director TenCate Grass comments: 'Since the installation of our first texturizing equipment just over two years ago, TenCate Grass has set the standard with its high quality, creating a fast growing demand for its texturized grass yarns. As a result, demand for these products has greatly outpaced capacity during 2010. With the new expansion, TenCate Grass again will be able to meet demand, and service the European and American markets adequately'.

Sales growth of specialty fibers

Apart from texturized fibers TenCate Grass experienced growth in all other specialty products, like TenCate XP Blade™. TenCate Grass has already increased its capacity for such products early this year. In 2010, the organic sales growth of the TenCate Grass group was more than 10%.

Value chain management

TenCate synthetic turf components are supplied worldwide to many prominent suppliers and producers of synthetic turf systems. Cooperation within the value chain leads to greater quality control by all the parties involved in the development process, resulting in integral quality assurance. This is fully in line with the system approach advocated by TenCate. TenCate Grass thus gives a general impetus to further improvements in the playing characteristics and durability of synthetic turf systems.

TenCate Grass

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For further information:

Koninklijke Ten Cate nv

Stationsstraat 11
7607 GX Almelo, the Netherlands
P.O. Box 58
7600 GD Almelo, the Netherlands

Tel +31 546 544 911
Fax +31 546 814 145
www.tencate.com
media@tencate.com

KvK nr. 06016321
Royal Bank of Scotland 448627868
BTW nr. NL 004645054B02

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

TenCate Grass

Guido Vliegen, Global Group Director, TenCate Grass

Telephone : + 1 770 306 4277

Mobile : + 1 770 317 8170

E-mail : g.vliegen@tencate.com

Internet : www.tencategrass.com

TenCate (corporate)

Jaap de Carpentier Wolf, Head Corporate Communications

Telephone : + 31 (0)546 544 306

Mobile : + 31 (0)623 317 352

E-Mail : media@tencate.com

Internet : www.tencate.com

TenCate Grass develops and produces synthetic turf components and designs systems for top-flight sport, recreation and landscape applications. Together with its partners, TenCate Grass strives to achieve a system approach. This gives users confidence in playing characteristics and lifespan. TenCate Grass has production facilities in Europe, the Middle East and North America.

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

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