

## Deal sealed

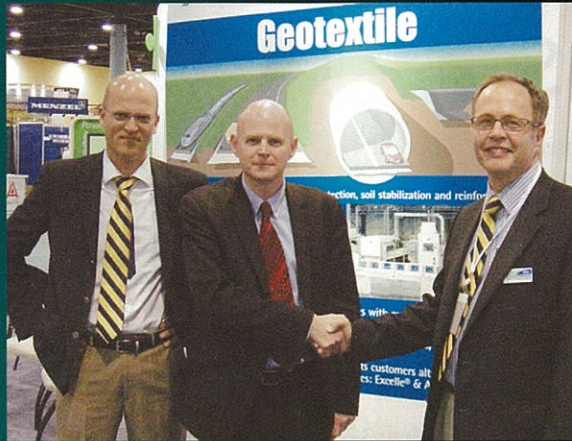
Fibertex finalised the purchase of another ProDyn line from NSC nonwovens in Miami. This is the fifth ProDyn line NSC has supplied to the Fibertex group and will be installed in the Czech Republic.

It includes the IsoProDyn system for ideal tensile strength uniformity across the fabric width.

Earlier this year Fibertex purchased another new needling line from NSC for its new South African operation. The wide-width production line includes the card, crosslapper, drafter, needlelooms and ProDyn weight control system.

Fibertex is establishing Fibertex South Africa together with Safyr (South African Fibre Yarn Rugs), a local South African partner. The aim of the company is to manufacture and market needlepunched products.

The manufacturing plant is located near Durban and has a competitive production system geared towards producing primarily geotextiles for road works, but also products for the growing South African automotive industry. It will also target applications in many industrial applications such as furniture, bedding and filtration. Pictured in Miami are Joergen Bech Madsen, CEO of Fibertex Industrial Nonwovens (centre), with NSC CEO Johannes Haep (right) and sales and marketing director Jean-Philippe Dumon.



reduces the fibre-to-fibre tack without negatively affecting creep performance," said Ken Martin, senior market development associate at Invista.

With lower take-off tension, Lycra HyFit fibre can improve the consistency of package delivery with less opportunity for tension spikes.

"The product also makes it possible to explore reductions in glue add-on rates to further reduce manufacturing costs," said Mr Martin.

Lycra HyFit fibre is designed for continuous running, which can provide significant cost savings by minimising downtime and using each package to the core. It may also be used as a replacement for rubber with up to four times less material required to achieve comparable retractive force.

### Surface barriers

Cerex Advanced Fabrics launched the N-Fusion family of nylon spunbond fabrics that are engineered for the composites industry.

The new fabrics offer a high quality

surface finish, improved impact resistance and deeper, richer colours through a natural resin affinity, which brings more resin to the surface of the composite product.

"Our N-Fusion fabrics provide the next generation in composite performance," said president and CEO of Cerex, Jim Walker. "Utilising proprietary process technology and the advantages of nylon, N-Fusion veils deliver a surface barrier that improves UV protection, increases surface impact resistance and provides unmatched abrasion and corrosion resistance."

N-Fusion veils and reinforcing fabrics are currently available in weights from 10-136 gsm, widths up to three metres, thicknesses ranging from 3-22mm, and in a variety of custom colours and patterns.

### Increased efficiency

Hollingsworth & Vose presented its NanoWave extended surface filter media, which is said to offer three times the dirt-holding capacity of conventional media.

"NanoWave all-synthetic media offers

the same level of efficiency and resistance in an uncharged state as traditional glass mat media," said Angelika Mayman, the company's director of business development. "However, it prevents the occurrence of the fibre shredding that is associated with glass media during filter processing, installation and use and so improves its effectiveness and productivity."

NanoWave is designed specifically to meet ASHRAE bag standards and can be converted into a filter using conventional ASHRAE bag manufacturing equipment. A NanoWave filter is said to last longer than a conventional glass media and its high stiffness allows proper bag opening, retaining its shape in variable HVAC systems, as well as remaining aesthetically attractive during its long service life, according to H&V.

The company also presented its latest line of NanoWeb-coated filter media designed for gas turbine/dust collector air filtration, and what it says is the industry's broadest range of friction base materials for automotive on-road and off-road transmission and marine gears.

### Fewer defects

Americhem introduced its new range of custom colour and additive masterbatches characterised by superior dispersion technology, which results in lower pack pressure rise, fewer spin breaks and pack changes as well as higher yields.

"We've formulated our dispersions to virtually eliminate die face build up," said the company's global technology director for nonwoven fibre products Larry Campbell. "This results in fewer fabric defects and higher yield for our customers."

The company has also enhanced its range for performance additives for the nonwovens sector, comprising Duramax UV stabilisers, antimicrobials, flame retardants, antioxidants and tracers for nonwovens.

Americhem also confirmed it will install new in-house manufacturing simulation equipment in the next few months, with a custom-made spunbonded nonwoven pilot line, at its plant in Dalton, Georgia, which will allow for faster product development and testing.

"Americhem has long been regarded as