

Press release

Regulated information

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Bekaert and Maccaferri establish partnership for underground solutions

Bekaert and Maccaferri will establish a global sales and distribution joint venture to provide total construction reinforcement solutions for underground infrastructure projects such as road, railway, metro, utility and mining tunnels, as well as hydro power stations.

Bekaert, a global market and technology leader in steel wire transformation and coatings, and Maccaferri, a global supplier of advanced solutions to the civil, geotechnical and environmental construction markets, today announced their plans to establish a 50/50 sales and distribution joint venture for underground construction reinforcement solutions.

The joint venture is intended to promote on a global basis the use of advanced reinforcement solutions for underground construction projects. It will combine the sales and distribution of Bekaert's Dramix® steel fibers for the reinforcement of concrete in underground construction projects such as shotcrete and precast applications, with Maccaferri's complementary underground solutions, such as steel arches, concrete chemicals and glass fiber soil consolidation elements.

The joint venture will be serving underground construction markets on a worldwide basis, except in mainland China and Hong Kong, Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay, where Bekaert and Maccaferri will continue to operate independently.

The establishment of the joint venture is subject to customary closing conditions.

About Bekaert

Bekaert (www.bekaert.com) is a world market and technology leader in steel wire transformation and coatings. Bekaert (Euronext Brussels: BEKB) is a global company with headquarters in Belgium, employing 27 000 people worldwide. Serving customers in 120 countries, Bekaert pursues sustainable profitable growth in all its activities and generated combined sales of € 4.1 billion in 2013.

About Maccaferri

For nearly 140 years, Maccaferri has provided innovative solutions to the construction industry and built environment. Renowned as the world leader in gabion retaining structures, Maccaferri has diversified significantly over the past 20 years and now offers engineered solutions for reinforced soil structures, road stabilization and natural hazard mitigation to hydraulic works and landfill construction. From worldwide headquarters in Bologna, Italy, Officine Maccaferri is a privately held company with revenues of nearly €0.5 billion, over 30 plants worldwide, more than 70 subsidiaries, local operations in 100 countries and employing almost 3 000 people.

Disclaimer

The foregoing release may contain forward-looking statements regarding the impact of the transaction on the financial statements of Bekaert or Maccaferri. Such statements reflect the current views of the respective management regarding future events, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. Bekaert and Maccaferri are providing the information in this press release as of this date and do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this press release as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Bekaert and Maccaferri disclaim any liability for statements made or published by third parties and do not undertake any obligation to correct inaccurate data, information, conclusions or opinions published by third parties in relation to this or any other press release issued by Bekaert or Maccaferri.