

Press Release
October 31st 2012

Tensar International Continues Global Expansion with New Russian Plant

Tensar International has signed an agreement to build a manufacturing plant in Russia. Tensar is the majority shareholder in this joint venture, with remaining investment coming from Russian partners. Don Meltzer, CEO of US parent company, Tensar Corporation, and Bob Vevoda, Chief Operating Officer and President of Tensar International, met with their Russian JV partners in London earlier this month to finalise the funding and construction schedule.

Bob Vevoda comments: "Our sales into Russia have expanded over recent years. We are seeing growth in demand for our products in transportation projects, utilities and the energy sector. Forecasts indicate that strong infrastructure growth will continue for the next decade and beyond making it clear to us that a plant in Russia was a necessity. On top of that, the establishment of the Customs Union scrapping interstate tariffs and the likely expansion of the Union beyond Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan, further increased the attraction of a manufacturing facility located in the region."



The innovative construction techniques made possible by Tensar's products and expertise have been well received by specifiers in Russia and Central Asia. The company has found that with such a massive infrastructure program ahead, clients are open to technology solutions that are proven to increase construction efficiency.

Having six strategically located manufacturing facilities around the world reinforces Tensar's market leading position, and helps satisfy the global demand for their geogrid products as emerging economies expand their infrastructure; a strategic benefit confirmed by Vevoda. "World-wide manufacturing operations are a vital element of our global positioning and with the robust global demand for Tensar products, particularly our newest technology TriAx[®] geogrids, this new facility coupled with the joint venture, enables us to enhance our product offering in this significant market and elsewhere.

Located on the southern shore of the Gulf of Finland, the new plant will be sited in the Peterhof area of Saint Petersburg. Due to its role in Russia's engineering surge of the 1700s, Peterhof is regarded as a historically significant town and is a world heritage site.

Plans for the multi-million dollar project are well under way, with manufacturing equipment on order and a factory building obtained and currently undergoing a complete refurbishment. The plant is set for operation by January 2014.



The plant will produce Tensar's TriAx® geogrid range, used to stabilise road construction over soft soils and to optimize pavement design for roads, ports and airfields. It will also produce Tensar's high strength range of geogrids, with major applications in reinforced soil structures including retaining walls and embankments.

David Cashman, Tensar's Business Manager for Russia is keen to see completion of the new plant. "With our Russian Distribution partner and JV Partner, Grand Massar, we have been supplying Tensar geogrids into Russia for over 15 years and have completed some great projects in roads, rail and the energy sector. Right now our products are being installed into the new Grand Prix track and infrastructure works for the Winter Olympic venues in Sochi. We need this new plant, located in Russia to meet demand there and our expanding business in Central Asia."

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Notes to editors:

Tensar International is part of Tensar Corporation, a leading global developer and manufacturer of proprietary, highly engineered, non-traditional site-development solutions for infrastructure end-markets, including transportation, commercial and industrial construction.

Tensar provides its customers with an integrated suite of innovative products, technologies and application expertise for a wide variety of end uses, including high performance roadways, earth retention structures, building foundations and erosion and sediment control.

In 2007, Tensar launched TriAx™ a new geogrid which Tensar believes offers superior performance in multi-directional stiffness and aggregate confinement, which enables better radial load resistance, resulting in a reduction in aggregate base thickness and improved resistance to rutting.

The company also offers a comprehensive design service, technical seminars and on-site support, as part of a range of support services. Tensar International, formerly The Netlon Group, was founded in Blackburn, Lancashire, in 1952.

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