

## Media release

Oerlikon at Techtexsil 2013 at Messe Frankfurt

# Technical textiles are conquering construction sites

Pfäffikon SZ, Switzerland / Frankfurt, June 11, 2013 – Manmade fibers continue to find new areas of application: Oerlikon will unveil its new technologies for the technical textiles manufacture for use in the construction industry, among other areas, at the Techtexsil 2013 trade fair. The company will showcase its total solution for the production of spunbond for roofing membranes and geotextiles and systems for the processing of aramid and carbon fibers, which are used in such materials as fiber-reinforced concrete. “Thanks to their wide range of functions, manmade fibers will remain a growth market for years to come,” said Stefan Kross, Head of the Oerlikon Business Unit Manmade Fibers.

Techttextil, held from June 11-13, 2013, at Messe Frankfurt, is the definitive international trade fair for textiles and nonwovens. Today, about 12 % of fibers produced worldwide are used in technical textiles – and the trend shows this number is rising. In Frankfurt, Oerlikon Neumag will unveil its single-source solution for the complete spunbond process – from polymer granulate to rolled goods. Thanks to their thermal insulation properties, polyester spunbond is especially well suited for use in roofing materials. In addition to serving as the base material for bitumen and underlay roofing membranes, polyester spunbond is used to manufacture geotextiles. These lattice-like textile fabrics are primarily used by the road-construction industry to provide stability to the subgrade, to act as filter and drainage elements and to reinforce asphalt.

### Fiber-reinforced plastics displace steel and aluminum

Oerlikon Barmag will present its solutions for the manufacture and processing of fibers in another area of application featured at Techttextil: plastics reinforced with carbon, aramid and glass fibers. Fiber-reinforced composites are increasingly displacing steel and aluminum in cars, planes and wind power stations. Fiber-reinforced concrete is another new area of application with substantial potential for growth: a single layer of fibers increases concrete’s load-bearing capacity fourfold.

### Technical textiles on the move in new areas of application

Although manmade fibers are still primarily used for functional clothing and home textile products like carpeting, they are constantly conquering new areas of application: today’s vehicles contain about 20 kilograms of manufactured textile products primarily made from manmade fibers – from seatbelts and airbags, roof linings and floor coverings to seat covers, upholstery and insulation matting in the engine compartment. Athletic events are taking place more and more frequently on artificial turf that is made of manmade fibers and boats wouldn’t set out to sea and sails couldn’t be hoisted without manmade fibers today.

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**About Oerlikon**

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) is a leading high-tech industrial group specializing in machine and plant engineering. The Company is a provider of innovative industrial solutions and cutting-edge technologies for textile manufacturing, drive technology, vacuum systems, coating and advanced nanotechnology. A Swiss company with a tradition going back over 100 years, Oerlikon is a global player with nearly 12 700 employees at over 160 locations in 34 countries and reported sales of CHF 2.9 billion in 2012. In 2012 the Company invested CHF 106 million in R&D, with over 1 000 specialists working on future products and services. In most areas, the operative businesses rank either first or second in their respective global markets.

**About Oerlikon Barmag and Oerlikon Neumag**

Oerlikon Textile with the Oerlikon Barmag and Oerlikon Neumag brands is the world market leader for filament spinning systems used for manufacturing manmade fibers, texturing machines, BCF systems, staple fiber spinning systems and artificial turf systems and – as an engineering services provider – offers solutions along the entire textile value added chain.

As a future oriented company, the Oerlikon Group segment's research and development is driven by energy-efficiency and sustainable technologies. With the expansion of the product range to include poly-condensation systems and their key components, the company now caters to the entire process – from the monomer all the way through to the textured yarn.

The primary Oerlikon Barmag markets are in Asia, with Oerlikon Neumag's main markets in the US, Turkey and China. Correspondingly, the companies – with almost 2300 employees – have a worldwide presence in 120 countries as part of the Oerlikon Textile network of production, sales and distribution and service organizations. At the R&D centers in Remscheid, Neumünster and Chemnitz, highly-qualified engineers and technicians develop innovative and technologically-leading products for tomorrow's world.