



## PRESS RELEASE

### EUROBENT (TILTEX) OVERSTATED COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH BY MORE THAN 300%

27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023

In the consent judgment ordered by Judge Rosenthal of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, on 29th December 2022, it was confirmed that Inland Tarp & Liner, LLC (“ITL®”) (a distributor of Tiltex, sold under the alternative brand ITL RCR®) had published and supplied false and misleading performance data, including compressive strength values to their customers. Eurobent had supplied ITL with some of the false data.

The only standard specifically for testing the compressive strength of GCCMs is [ASTM D8329](#) “Standard Test Method for Determination of Water/Cementitious Materials Ratio for Geosynthetic Cementitious Composite Mats (GCCMs) and Measurement of the Compression Strength of the Cementitious Material Contained Within.”

In 2020, ITL® advertised false data about the physical properties of ITL RCR®, based on data about the physical properties of Tiltex supplied by Eurobent. For example, Eurobent supplied ITL® with Tiltex compressive strength data, purportedly based on testing that included preparing samples by combining water with Tiltex’s cementitious material at a ratio of 0.18, curing the samples, and measuring the compressive strength of the samples according to the European standard PN-EN-196-1:2016-07. The Eurobent data indicated that after a 28-day cure, the samples had a compressive strength of 84.9 MPa (12,313 psi).

In general, a lower water to cementitious material ratio will achieve a higher compressive strength, Abrams Law (for a specified set of concreting materials, the strength of the concrete is exclusively based on the relative quantity of water relative to the cement). When hydrating ITL RCR® (Tiltex) at an installation site per ITL’s instructions, it is typically not feasible to obtain a water to cementitious material ratio of 0.18. Instead, a higher ratio is obtained. When, as part of the Texas case, Concrete Canvas® commissioned an independent laboratory, TRI Environmental, to test ITL RCR®-7 in accordance with [ASTM D8329](#), **TRI reported a water to cementitious material ratio of 0.39 and a compressive strength of only 27.2 MPa (3,945 psi) after a 28-day cure.**

**Eurobent had claimed in the data it supplied to ITL that Tiltex has a compressive strength three times the compressive strength obtained by the independent laboratory, TRI Environmental.**

ITL® did not independently verify the data it received from Eurobent, including the compressive strength data, prior to advertising based on the data. Instead, ITL® advertised that, after a 28-day cure, ITL RCR® has a compressive strength of 84.9 MPa and 12,313 psi when testing according to the standard ASTM C109-02. **The Eurobent data was false and the advertisements were misleading.** because: (a) the data provided by Eurobent was based on testing that included preparing samples that have a water to cementitious material ratio of 0.18, which resulted in significantly overstating the compressive strength; and (b) the data provided by Eurobent was not based on testing to the standard ASTM C109-02.

The testing conducted by TRI Environmental on samples of ITL RCR® (Tiltex) during the litigation process showed that **the performance of the ITL RCR® (Tiltex) samples tested did not reach the minimum performance values required for a Type I, II or III application of a GCCM when tested in accordance with the standards and criteria in the [ASTM D8364](#) Standard Specification for Geosynthetic Cementitious Composite Mat (GCCM) Materials.**

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Type I applications have the lowest requirements and include but are not limited to: erosion control, weed suppression, slope protection, berm protection, and remediation of concrete hydraulic structures. Type II GCCM applications would include all Type I applications, and applications that would have abrasion and wear requirements greater than Type I. Type II GCCM applications include but are not limited to: channel lining, berm protection, armouring, slope protection (any angle and run length), culvert invert lining and concrete overlay, and remediation of concrete hydraulic structures and Type III GCCM applications include all Type I and Type II applications that require additional flexural strength of the GCCM material due to unsuitable (that is, loose) subgrades.

**-ENDS**