

Press release

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Bekaert launches mini-site for its 2009 Annual Report

Today Bekaert published its 2009 Annual Report exclusively online for the second continuous year. The report, which outlines Bekaert's business activities and performance in 2009, can be read or downloaded - in English and Dutch - from annualreport.bekaert.com.

Earlier this year, Bekaert was granted the award for Best Financial Information and Best Annual Report 2008 by the Belgian Association of Financial Analysts. Encouraged by this recognition we continue our commitment to keep investing in good financial communications and investor relations.

This is why – for this edition – we have further enhanced our reporting format by means of a dedicated mini-site and the possibility to watch a video message from the Chairman and CEO, commenting on the drivers of our performance in 2009. The new *pdf composer* feature offers visitors the possibility to generate a pdf of the annual report *à la carte*, based on their specific information needs.

This year's edition bears the title *Spanning the globe*, referring to our wide geographic presence which contributed largely to our resilience and strong performance throughout 2009. The *better together* stories that are featured in the report bear testimony of this global presence as they relate to the many different regions in which we are active.

Profile

Bekaert (www.bekaert.com) is a global technological leader in its two core competences: advanced metal transformation and advanced materials and coatings, and a market leader in drawn wire products and applications. Bekaert (Euronext Brussels: BEKB) is a global company with headquarters in Belgium, employing 23 000 people worldwide. Serving customers in 120 countries, Bekaert pursues sustainable profitable growth in all its activities and generates annual combined sales of €3.3 billion.