

Dramix® plant in Belgium receives ISO 14001® certificate

Bekaert continues efforts to minimize impact on environment. Dramix® Belgium and Brazil ISO 14001 certified, all other plants to be certified before end 2011.

Bekaert is pleased to announce it has earned ISO14001 Environmental Standard Certification for its Dramix® plant in Moen (Belgium) from Bureau Veritas Certification, an internationally accredited firm for management system standards.



The ISO 14001 Standard is an internationally accepted specification for environmental management systems created by the International Organization for Standardization to help organizations minimize how their operations affect the environment and comply with related laws, regulations and requirements. By complying with internationally accepted standards Bekaert underscores its commitment to continuously **improve environmental assurance and performance** in all business activities.

Global certification: a clear commitment to the environment

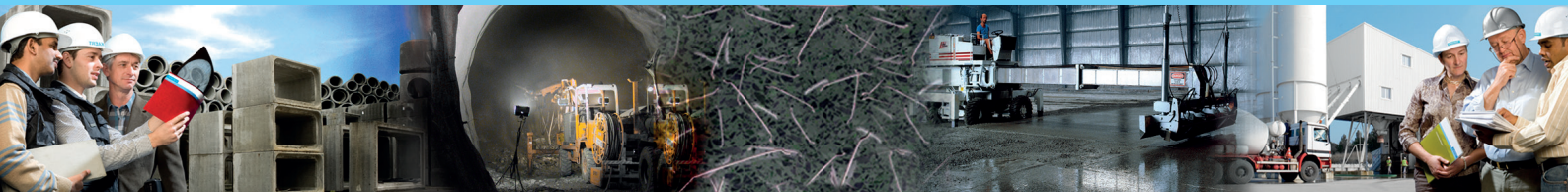
At the onset of 2009 Bekaert structurally addressed the certification issue at its production plants. Our aim is to have all of them ISO 14001 certified by year-end 2011. The identification of our significant environmental aspects and impacts served as the foundation for the global implementation of the ISO 14001 standard.

Process renewal driven by the need for energy reduction

Koen Naert, Group Environment Health and Safety Manager at Bekaert, comments: *“At our Dramix® plants we undertook several initiatives in order to bring down our energy consumption. To reduce insidious energy losses at our production plant we frequently perform checks of our infrastructure. We have also drawn up new specifications – in concordance with more tougher technical standards, specific process demands and energy consumption – for*



Koen Naert, Group Environment Health and Safety Manager at Bekaert



state-of-the-art, energy-efficient lighting systems. In addition, we thoroughly studied and implemented the energy-saving possibilities of the cooling and ventilation systems of our machinery. And we looked into the effect of harmonics on the power-quality ratio and the energy-saving potential connected therewith.”

Dramix® steel fibers: an integrated approach to preserve the environment

Dramix® steel fibers contribute to a cleaner environment by **using less steel to reinforce concrete and to optimize the use of concrete in the construction.** Compared with mesh and rebar reinforcement, our Dramix® steel fiber concrete solution also allows to reduce CO₂ emission and energy consumption per cubic meter of concrete.

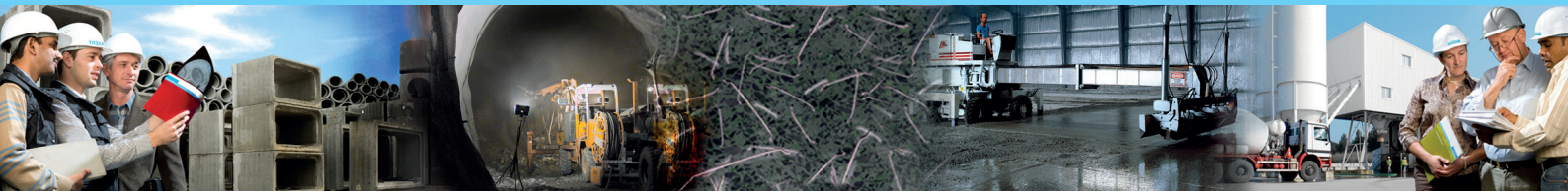
Reduce energy consumption with Dramix® reinforced concrete

Total energy consumption per cubic metre of concrete

Comparison	Rebar / mesh	Dramix®
Concrete		
Energy consumption (GJ/m ³)	2,89	2,89
Reinforcement		
Reinforcement (kg/m ³)	100	40
Type	Mesh	RC-80/60-BN
Energy consumption (GJ/ton)	22,5	22,5
Energy consumption (GJ/m³)	5,14	3,79

Reduction of energy consumption	26%
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Bekaert’s Dramix® steel fibers, used to reinforce concrete constructions, allow a reduction in the energy consumed per cubic meter of concrete, by 26%, when compared to the classical steel rebar solution.



To cater for the need for ultimate sustainable solutions, Bekaert developed Dramix® Green, which links the aesthetic benefit of a smooth surface with high durability thanks to an environmentally friendly rust inhibitor. These products are used to **build durable structures** – such as Dramix® reinforced concrete pipes and Dramix® fluid tight structures (petrol stations, chemical production, waste treatment)



Dramix® fluid tight structures



At the same time Bekaert is putting its concern for the environment into practice by developing new and eco-friendlier ways of producing at its plants. On the overall Dramix® volume, we can state that the percentage of **recycled steel used in our end product is around 20%**. For special products and on customer request, it is possible to select specific wire rod qualities, where we can offer a Dramix® product made of minimum 80% recycled steel.



ISO 14001 means Bekaert is successful in

- Designing and implementing an effective environmental management system
- Minimizing how the operations negatively affect the environment.

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