

Press release

SKZ - International conference **Lifetime of Geosynthetics**

Following the successful seminars on „Lifetime of Geosynthetics“ in Germany SKZ in cooperation with BMC Gulf Trading & Contracting L.L.C. organises this International conference on “Lifetime of Geosynthetics” to be held on 22 and 23 October 2008 in Dubai with Helmut Zanzinger, SKZ, Germany as the chairman.

Geosynthetics are used in the construction of roadways, bridge abutments, marine structures, reservoirs, landfills and many other structures. Contractors often demand an assurance from the manufacturer that the planned structure will last for the whole life of the structure, which may be a hundred years or more. These materials, and even the polymers from which they are made, were unknown a century ago. There is therefore no experience of their use for this length of time.

In fact, commercial geosynthetics have generally proved themselves durable over the fifty years since they were first installed, and over that period the quality of the products available has been improved. An understanding of the physics and chemistry of degradation has led to tests that can be performed within a reasonable time to provide an assurance that a conventional geosynthetic will last for at least 25 years in a ‘normal’ soil environment. The methods of installation are controlled and quality assurance has been improved.

A more formal and comprehensive life assessment is required for a geosynthetic to be used outside these limits: for new or different polymers, higher temperatures, more aggressive environments and above all for longer lifetimes. This conference is intended to set out how to perform such an assessment.

The second day of 23 October will conclude with a technical tour to the artificial lakes construction site in Dubai.

Würzburg/Germany, July 2008

Conference fee: 990,00 EUR
Early bird discount: Register before 24 September 2008 for only 850,00 EUR

Conference language: English

**Venue: Radisson SAS Hotel, Dubai Deira Creek
United Arab Emirates**

Conference manager:
Irina Bender
Tel. +49 931 4104-436
E-Mail: i.bender@skz.de
www.skz.de