agy NEWS

AGY Enters European Construction and Industrial Markets With E-Glass High Tensile Glass Fiber Yarn Produced From Its China Manufacturing Facility

AIKEN, SC, USA - **(April 13, 2010)** - AGY, a leading global producer of glass fiber yarns and high-strength glass fiber reinforcements, recently announced that it has entered the highly competitive European market with E-Glass fiber yarn manufactured in its Shanghai, China plant. Produced specifically for the European construction and industrial markets, AGY's E-Glass yarn offers unique and outstanding properties, which provide design opportunities for the improvement of existing products and the development of new products.

Up until now, AGY has not participated in the high tensile glass fiber yarn market in Europe due primarily to the high duties associated with servicing these markets from the United States. The recent expansion of its yarn manufacturing footprint to Shanghai where production costs are lower means that AGY can now be competitive in the European market. "With the addition of AGY Shanghai to our manufacturing infrastructure," said Drew Walker, AGY Vice President of Sales and Marketing. "We can now match low-cost manufacturing with our high-tensile sizing technology and local service warehouse in Antwerp, Belgium."

High tensile E-Glass yarns are needed for woven and scrim applications where fabric tear strength and fabric tensile retention are key product attributes. "High tensile E-Glass yarns have been used for many years for products like cement board and roofing membranes," explained Walker. "They not only increase the tear strength of the fabric, they also offer fabric stability and fire resistance. And, when used in contact with concrete, these fabrics also provide excellent cracking resistance, long-lasting mechanical strength and high impact strength. Ensuring our customers are getting the best possible price is equally as important as ensuring consistent quality and on-time delivery."

While E-Glass is the most common form of reinforcing yarn and has been around for many years, it is continually being discovered by design engineers and fabricators looking for more high-tech solutions to age old problems such as how to extend the life of a concrete structure or how to solve certain structural issues in historic buildings. "We believe that as the technology becomes better understood, we will see double-digit growth in this market for years to come," added Walker.

AGY's European operations are based in Lyon, France, with warehouse facilities located in Antwerp, Belgium. AGY currently services its European customers with EC 9 68 (G75) high tensile glass fiber yarn. A second yarn, EC9 34 (G150), will be available later in 2010.

For more information on high-tensile glass fiber yarns, please call +(1) 803-648-8351, or visit AGY's website at www.agy.com.

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About AGY

AGY is a leading global producer of glass fiber yarns and high-strength glass fiber reinforcements used in a variety of composites applications. The company serves a diverse range of markets including aerospace and defense, electronics, construction and industrial. Headquartered in Aiken, South Carolina USA, AGY has a European office in Lyon, France and manufacturing facilities in Aiken, South Carolina, USA and in Shanghai, China.